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THURSDAY, APRIL 7TH, 2011

Autistic teenager's mother drives 90 miles a day to take him to his college

The mother of an autistic teenager is having to travel 90 miles a day to take him to college because she claims she is unable to get help from Bridgend Borough (BCBC) County Council special needs transport department.

Mrs Ann Telling, who lives in Acland Road, Bridgend, drives her son David all the way to Beechwood College in Sully three times a

The trip is 45 miles there and back, and with a pick-up required six hours later, it means she clocks up 90 miles in a

single day.
Six years ago, when the family first lived in Bridgend, David attended Heronsbridge School, but Mrs Telling said that it did not provide the sort of help that David needed, so when the returned to Bridgend after a spell in Lancashire, she applied

"Careers Wales helped with the applica-tion, although I don't don't think they were happy we were applying. They initially didn't apply for transport help – I believe because the man thought we wouldn't be successful in getting in.
"They only applied

last July when they knew David had got a

place and was starting in September."

Mr Telling was made redundant in February 2009, and the family are religing to benefits. reliant on benefits.

Now, they have spent the last of their savings on a car to take David to Beechwood.

"We take him three days a week, but after Easter that goes up.

"With the cost of fuel going up, we need transport help more than ever.
David cannot access
public transport because
he has sensory processing disorder." ing disorder."
This sensory process-

ing disorder means that David can be "over-whelmed" by a lively at and noisy classroom, or

development.
SUPPORTED

A spokesman for Careers Wales said the

CHAPMAN

by travelling on public transport. The family believe that the Sully college is best equipped

to deal with this.

Mrs Telling continued: "The Assembly
Member Peter Black was helpful and wrote to BCBC and the

BCBC and the Assembly.
"However, we have been told David doesn't qualify for help from social services because he is 18 and his IQ is over 70."

Mrs Telling believes special needs transport should provide transport

until David is 19.

Despite suffering from Asperger's syndrome, David enjoys playing computer games, watching You Tube, cooking, and plaving rock-climbing – the lat-ter an activity inspired at Beechwood

Mrs Telling says the college has helped to build up David's confidence and she feels it is likely to be able to take him onto a new level of

ents because of the impact on access to education.

"Careers Wales has responsibility for preparing and submit-ting applications for funding for specialist college placements to the Welsh Assembly, and we deal with a number of these each year.

"We were surprised and disappointed to read that Mrs Telling felt that we were not happy that her son was applying for a specialist college

a specialist college placement.

"The advisers who supported David and his family through the process were in regular contact with them and worked diligently to gather supporting information and present a strong case that secured the funding for David to attend Beechwood College in Sully.

The spokesman continued: "We wrote to BCBC on behalf of the family to request a taxi to transport David to college promptly after receiving verbal notifi-cation that the funding for Beechwood had been approved.
"It would not have

been possible for us to support David in applyorganisation understood ing for assistance with that transport to college transport at an earlier point, as funding for a

college place must be secured before an application is made.

"In the two months following the initial application for transport funding, we contacted the local authority and the Assembly's Department for Children

Education Lifelong Learning and Skills on numerous occasions to press home the impor-tance of David getting a taxi for his journey from Bridgend to Sully."

The spokesman said advisers were in touch with Mrs Telling on a weekly basis to keep her up-to-date with the situ-

He added: "Providing transport funding for students in education over the age of 16 is at discretion of the

the discretion of local authority.

"When BCBC made the decision to refuse the local for a taxi, we have tons, Bridgend's cabinet to the local for Tuesday to request for a taxi, we understood that the authority offered financial assistance for the family to transport David to college them-

pupil at Heronsbridge School, but left in February 2008 when his family moved from the

(CONTINUED

ABOVE: David Telling flanked by mum Ann and father Alan.

∟ease granted for new skate park location

Porthcawl residents objected to propos-als to lease land at Heol y Goedwig to Porthcawl Town Council so that the new skateboard park can be built.

The land is owned by BCBC and it advertised its intention to lease the land to the town council, which is spending more

grant a lease to the town council.

In a report to cabinet, David Sutherland, head of ICT and property, said selves." of ICT and property, said
A BCBC spokesperson said: "David was a as "open space" and amounted to just under half an acre.
The land required for

the skateboard park is part of a larger area owned by the council known as the Wilderness Lakes. The skateboard park will be located near the existing playground.

He went on: "The

He went on: He went on: "The proposal to construct a skate park at Heol y Goedwig has been subject to local opposition. Objections raised have been fully considered by the local planning authority prior to granti-ng planning consent for a change of use."

The council has received 220 objections to the notice of intended disposal of the site. Objections

raised on a number of grounds, including the fact that there would be a loss of open space and of outdoor playing space, increased anti-social behaviour and noise A separate workshop-problems, more traffic education building will

MORE than 200 and on-street parking and a lack of consulta-tion by Porthcawl Town Council with local resi-

> Objectors claimed that the skateboard park can only be used by two people at a time and will result in the loss of a multi-use amenity open space which has been used as a kick-about and general

There were also con-cerns about children crossing roads to reach it and the fact that it would attract older children and teenagers, as opposed to the younger children who go to the play-

games area.

There were also suggestions that the facility should go to Griffin Park, where there is an unused site which would be inside a locked park.

A petition was also received calling on the council not to dispose of this land and that the two councils should look for an alternative site.

Officers state that the key issue for the council is not the use of the land as a skate park, but whether the council should dispose of an

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

Parc Prison set for an expansion?

PLANS to extend be provided, as well as a HMP Parc being discussed by Bridgend planners today (Thursday).

The application from Bridgend Custodial Bridgend Custodial Services is to build a new cell block with accommodation for 255 prisoners, plus a workshop, gatehouse, visitor centre, car park, sports pitch and extension to he perimeter wall.

The development will

lie within part of the existing prison site.

The new building will be a three-storey structure spread over three wings in a T shape. The overall length will be more than 300 feet long. It is being built on what is now a staff car park.

new gate-house and a visitor centre.

The old clock tower of the former Parc Hospital, which occupied the site, will be moved to a new site where it will be visible to the public.

The new cell block will increase the number of prisoners at Parc from the present 1,138 to 1,393. There will be an extra 68 prison staff jobs, many of which will

be filled by local people.

The construction
work will also create posts for local people, with 70 per cent being recruited from the area.

Full details of the application and decision by planners will be printed in next week's

Main parties are geared up for Assembly election fight

THE four main Gregory is up against parties are set to fight it out in both Bridgend and Ogmore constituencies at the forthcoming Assembly elections.

Both seats were taken Labour last time

by Lauon.
around.
In Bridgend, First
Minister Carwyn Jones
will be challenged by
three candidates –
Conservative Alex three candidates – Conservative Alex Williams, Plaid Cymru's Tim Thomas and Liberal

Democrat Briony Jane In Ogmore, Janice Hughes, Plaid Cymru's Danny Clark and Liberal Democrat Gerald Leslie Francis.

In the South Wales West region, which includes Bridgend and Ogmore, there are a total of 12 parties vying for the top-up vote. Candidates are not named for the regional seats - only their party.

Everyone has two votes in the Assembly elections - one for the first-past-the-post seats and one for the regional





Celyn Ripley of Brynteg Comprehensive School was awarded best speaker at the ESU Public Speaking competition recently. SEE A FULL REPORT ON PAGE 10.

TO GETTING LOTTERY GUIDE

A FUNDING event was hosted by Madeleine Moon MP recently in Bridgend.

The MP invited along Big Lottery and Heritage Lottery representatives to take part in a funding surgery which was held at the Evergreen Hall. Madeleine Moon said:

"This was a good opportunity for the voluntary organisations in the constituency to talk to Big Lottery and Heritage Lottery about what was available to them. "Fflur Lawton, head of

external affairs from the Big Lottery gave an overview of how their funding works and what grants were available to organisations which included People and Places; Awards for All; UK Improving Futures; Community Voice Programme and Young People - Bright New Futures.

"Adam Hitchings, development officer from the Heritage Lottery fund, also explained how they could help with funding for many different things from historic buildings and streets, through to museums, parks, histories of people and communities, people's memories and experiences and natural environments.

Some of those attending had experience of applying for funding but some had not and were delighted to find out that perhaps they could get help for their organisation.

To contact these organisations for more information on how to apply for funding, go to www.biglotteryfund.org.uk for Big Lottery Fund and www.hlf.org.uk for Heritage Lottery Fund.

PICTURED RIGHT: Heidi Bennett (Bavo), Fflur Lawton (Big Lottery), Madeleine Moon, Adam Hitchings (Heritage Lottery).



LEFT: Local historians Linda Jones and Dennis Jones looking at laptops while members public research family historv.

Family trees are traced at Y Llynfi Library 'open day'

A FAMILY and local history open day in Y Llynfi Library in Maesteg Sports Centre, proved a success as experts gave helpful advice and support on how to research family trees and find out

tory of the area.

Organised by Bridgend County Borough Council's Library and Information Service. experts were on hand to answer queries and gave talks on local history and family research.

On the day, local historian Clive Smith

more about the his-New carnival competition is aimed at local school pupils

PORTHCAWL Carnival organisers are hoping to involve more children in the run up to the event this year.

They are inviting children to design the front cover of the carnival programme as part of a competition.

The winner will see their design printed on all the programmes distributed before and during the carnival, and they will also receive a personal gift voucher and another voucher for their school.

The winner and their headteacher will be invited to a presentation evening at the Hi-Tide where they will receive their prizes

The theme of the carnival this year is theatre shows and musicals such as The Lion King. The entry must be no bigger than A4, with the words Porthcawl Carnival 2011 printed

A spokeswoman said: "Please write the child's name, school and class year on the back. Also include the age of the child and home telephone number.

"The organisers are looking for something bright and exciting so imagination is very

important!"

The closing date for entries is May 6. They should be sent to Danielle Ulberini, 4, The Firs, Newton Burrows, Porthcawl,

said: "I've come to get some help and information with my family tree. I think this is a well equipped resource centre with internet access and most publi-cations on the Maesteg valley, which is very useful for research."

A library spokesman said: "In any library in Bridgend County Borough, with a valid libraries card you can discover your ancestors by gaining free access to 'Find my Past' which has the most complete 1841 -

1911 census collection, online index of births. marriages and deaths from 1837 – 2006. parish records dating from 1538, migration records including 24 million passenger list records, military records covering both World Wars and may other specialist records."

For further details, call in to your local library or visit www.bridgend.gov.uk/li

Car overturns on the road to Porthcawl

MORNING traffic in and out of Porthcawl was disrupted on Tuesday morning (April 5) after a car overturned at approximately 8.30am.

A spokesman for South Wales Police told The GEM: "Police attended a road traffic collision on the A4106 at Danygraig Hill, when a single vehicle left the carriageway and collided with a stone wall before overturning and rebounding onto the carriageway."

The spokesman added that no-one was injured.

ABOVE: One of Brian Jones' paintings.

AN exhibition of paintings is being staged the Berwyn Centre in Nantvmoel, Mondays to Fridays, April 4-28 (excluding bank holidays).

On show will be oil

and watercolour paint ings depicting land and seascape views by local artist Brian Jones, inspired by the work of renowned artists Bob Ross and Frank Clark.

Organised Bridgend County Borough Council's arts and community service, the exhibition will be open: Mondays 9am–1pm and 3.30– pm;

Student learning celebrated in work-based awards ceremony



ON Wednesday, March 21, the first ever work-based learning awards ceremony jects took place at Bridgend College to celebrate the inspirational achievements of selected candidates.

A total of 25 recipients from public, private and

Vocational Qualification (NVQ) in a range of sub

Sarah Williams, NVQ assessor at Bridgend College, said: "It was great to see our candidates receive special recognition for all the hard work and effort that they have put into their NVQs.

"The candidates were able to complete their qualthe voluntary sector were recognised for their hard ifications in the workplace, despite having many work and dedication in achieving their National commitments to manage in their working day."

Local artist's exhibition



9am-1pm and 3.30-pm; Tuesdays 9am-7pm; Wednesdays 9am-5pm; Thursdays 9am-1pm and 4pm-6pm; and Fridays 9am-5pm. Admission is

Call for swift action on the Wick Post Office

WITH the closure last week of Wick Post Office, Assembly Member Jane Hutt has called for urgent action from the Post Office to find a new manager and to recoup funding from the Post office grant.
She explained: "The Post Office has told me it is

committed to operating a service in the area and is doing all it can to reinstate the service to the community. I have also asked the Welsh Assembly for details on how it will recover this funding.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL APRIL 7)
The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht					
	AM	M	PM	M					
07 Thur	10.19	9.3	22.33	9.1					
08 Fri	10.48	8.9	23.03	8.9					
09 Sat	11.25	8.6	23.40	8.5					
10 Sun	12.04	8.1	00.28	8.1					
11 Mon	13.02	7.7	00.27	8.1					
12 Tues	13.02	7.7							
13 Wed	03.03	7.7	15.56	7.7					
14 Thur	04.30	8.2	17.1	9.3					
While The GEM makes every effort to check the									

accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

WE ARE NOW ONLINE!

You can read your weekly copy of The GEM online just visit www.bridgend-today.co.uk or www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

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PEN-Y-FAI SCHOOL SAGA

End is near as site is set aside for new school

road may at last be in sight for the There has been no fur-pupils, parents and ther legal challenge from staff of Pen-y-Fai the objector. Church in Wales Primary School.

Years of delay to plans to build a replacement school may be shortly at an end as Bridgend's cabinet has agreed to make General Vesting Declarations (GVDs) for the land it needs for the new school.

The existing school is in a very poor condition was due to be rebuilt more than a decade ago, but arguments over the control of t but arguments over where it was to be sited were followed by prob-lems in obtaining the land that is needed.

The council made its first compulsory pur-chase order for the land needed to rebuild it at its present location off Heol yr Eglwys in 2005, with a

by a number of people up the process of acquirland affected by these orders. Since then, there construction have been two public inquiries with the inquiries with the Minister eventually confirming all three CPOs.

THE end of a long the High Court, but in tiations with the council frustrating January this year, a judge about the acquisition of dismissed the applica- their land.

In a report to cabinet, Children's officer Hilary Anthony said that now all three CPOs have been confirmed, with further challenges unlikely, officers wished to move on with the project so that contractors contractors can be there had to be a com-appointed and the site pelling case in the public cleared.
She said that making

General Vesting Orders would obviate the need

Making the declara-tions will automatically vest the title with the council without any transfer or conveyance being necessary.
After a clear 28 days'

notice has been served on people with an interest in programme to finance land involved, the further order in 2006, and another in 2009. GVDs will give the council immediate right Objections were made of entry. This will speed who had an interest in the ing the land and prevent any attempts to delay

She said that apart the from one family of con- objectors, who took the POs. challenge to the High There was then an Court, all other persons attempt by an objector to with an interest in the challenge that decision at affected land are in nego-

People will be entitled to compensation once the GVD orders have been made. Four such orders are proposed, covering all the land needed.

Ms Anthony said that the council had to make sure it was not contra-vening the Human Rights Act with this action and

She said that there must be clear evidence that the public benefit outweighed the private

The cabinet has agreed to the making of the four orders and after 28 days notice has been served. the council will enter into possession of the land involved.

The council has allothe building contract.

Coun Alana Davies cabinet member for Children and Young people, said that she was delighted that the school had reached this important stage after such a long wait.

She went on: "The council is committed to delivering a school which fits in with modern 21st century learning and the delays we have encountered have been very frustrating for us and for staff and pupils.

"We should be able to start work in about six weeks which can only be good news for Penyfai."

Teplaced by Coun Phil White, who represents Caerau-Nantyffyllon.

He was elected by t

to be decided any day now by JAYNE

Maesgwyn Hospital is likely to be confirmed this week.

The first meeting of the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg NHS Board since January is sched-uled for today (Thursday).

This will be the first chance board members will have had to discuss the outcome of public meetings and consulta-tion on the plans to close the remaining Teilo Ward at Maesgwyn with its 20 beds.

The Morlais Ward was closed earlier this year when patients were transferred to the new Angleton Clinic at

The Community Health Council has met and has agreed to the

The patients in Teilo Ward will transfer either to private nursing homes which offer suitable facilities, or will go to a hospital if they have more complex medical needs. Also, patients who

use Maesgwyn for respite care will go to alternative provision, which is to be laid on The board has plans

to re-invest the money saved by the closure of Maesgwyn into its care

A NEW face is

about to join the

cabinet that runs

Bridgend County

Borough Council.

is resigning as cabinet

replaced by Coun Phil

Communities and will be

member for

Parc prisoners

Coun John Spanswick

ISAAC

in the community services. All the staff will be redeployed and there will be no redundancies

The board intends to extend its community team in Bridgend so that it provides a seven-dayweek service to people in their own homes.

The aim is to try and prevent people going into hospital unless absolutely necessary by looking after them at

in hospital will also be able to be discharged earlier if they can be cared for by the team at home.

A spokesman for ABM Board said that they were confident that the new models of care for respite patients and the long term care serv-ices will be of benefit to both patients and carers.
The board will now

start working through all the details with an aim of having alternative services in place by the end of May this year.

The site will be sold off, probably for housing. The first £500,000 will go to the board and the remainder to the Welsh Assembly.

ruling Labour group last

week. The communities

drainage and also regen-

elected to the council in

directorate looks after

highways, planning,

refuse and recycling,

Coun White was

2008. He was a prominent member of the St

Mineworkers during the

1984 strike and had a

high profile throughout

Mr White was later

involved in the worker

Colliery and was one of

the directors of the com-

buy-out of Tower

Wales at that time

John's Lodge of the

National Union of

Cabinet reshuffle



High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan, Beverley Humphreys, with Julie Lydon of EcoDysgu and Alexis Kirsten.

The High Sheriff's visit to Bridgend's 'best kept secret'

of Mid Glamorgan, B e v e r l e y Humphreys, has made an official visit to EcoDysgu, educational the establishment in Tondu, Bridgend.

Founded in 2002, EcoDysgu, has been described as 'Bridgend's Best Kept Secret', provides alternative educa-tion and training for people of all ages, particu-larly those suffering from social exclusion, alcohol addiction and drug abuse, in addition to those who are strug-gling to focus within the traditional education

'Cuppa with a copper'

Neighbourhood Policing Team will be in the Honeypot Café, Verland Court, Pencoed, on Tuesday, April 12, between 3pm and 4pm to discuss any issues and offer prevention

tion programmes are executed in specialist workshops, including workshops, including carpentry, building, join-ery and other practical skills, and each pro-gramme is complemented by a holistic therapy session.

Within her role as High Sheriff of Mid-Glamorgan, Beverley Humphreys felt it impor tant that she visit EcoDysgu as the centre has helped and supported so many young peo-ple within the area.

The role of the High

Sheriff dates back to the 11th Century, when the High Sheriff was the keeper of peace, collector of taxes and even had powers of execution.

Now, the role still acts as a bridge between the as a bridge between the criminal justice system and the community, working closely with police and the judiciary to make communities

She said: "My role means encouraging and supporting the unsung heroes and heroines who are doing amazing things week in, week out, to help young peo-ple to channel their ener-gies and fulfil their potential" potential."

The visit involved a tour of the centre including indoor and outdoor workshop areas, vegetable patches, mud huts made from recycled materials and exquisite gardens made by groups who have benefited from

who have benefited from the centre.

Julie Lydon, the founder of EcoDysgu said: "We felt Beverley truly understood the messages we are passing on hears and one average. on here and are extremely grateful that she has taken the time to visit EcoDysgu to hear our stories and witness some of the unique workshops that take place."

LOCAL CHOIR'S HOLY WEEK PERFORMANCE

PORTHCAWL Choral Society will be giving a Holy Week performance of 'Olivet to Calvary' by JH Maunder on Monday, April 18 at 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Porthcawl.

This work simply and reverently recalls the scenes which marked the last few days of Jesus' life on earth.

The performance is free and there are no tickets. There will be a retiring collection for charity.

Charity's curry evening a success

Emmaus Bridgend held curry evening fundraising event at Natraj Indian Restaurant in Bridgend recent-

It was attended by 44 supporters of the Emmaus venture, who were treated to an evening of excellent food, entertainment and conviviality.
The proprietors of the

restaurant generously designed an interesting menu which allowed a significant percentage of the ticket price to go towards the development of a new Emmaus munity in Bridgend.

charity entertained by Andy ridgend Field, a very accom-

Emmaus is an interna tional charity dealing with problems of homelessness by establishing communities where formerly homeless people can live.

Central to

plished magician.

Emmaus concept is the idea that all those living in the community give up all state benefits other than housing benefit, and work in a social enterprise run by the commu-

nity.

The Bridgend project is moving forward and it is hoped that it will be the first Emmaus community to open in Wales within the next three

to face judges in 'hospitality' Bridgend will be the setting for a gourmet dinner for 12 this week as the

prisoners currently working on their NVQs in catering face the judges of the Institute of Hospitality.

Six members of the prison's catering course will take part in an inter-college kitchen battle to be crowned '2011 Institute of Hospitality

dining champion'.
Nine colleges across Wales will be competing against each other by creating a three-course menu based on produce from their area for a

panel of expert judges.
Parc Prison will be the fifth team to face the judging panel today, April 7. The next day, College face a panel of judges including industry professionals, food writers and local produc-

Parc Prison has been offering vocational courses for prisoners for 13 years.

According to director Janet Wallsgrove: "A comprehensive educational and training provi sion is available for all prisoners at Parc.

"Our core aim is to maximise rehabilitation, minimise re-offending while encouraging a smooth transition for offenders resettling back

into society.
"We are very proud that our NVQ team will be taking part in this inter-college culinary

challenge."
The winners will be announced at a ceremo-

pany. He also sits on Maesteg Town Council. Bridgend Council leader Mel Nott told yes terday's council meeting

that Coun Spanswick would be missed by his colleagues. He said that promotion at work would not allow him the time he needs for a cabinet role, but he will remain an elected member for Brackla.

Coun Nott paid tribute: "John has displayed such commitment and enthusiasm while carrying out this important cabinet position over the last three years." He said that he

expected to announce-ment at the AGM in May that Coun Phil White will take over as cabinet member for Communities and he said he knew that Coun White would carry on the good work.





Historic orchard is revived by the **Bridgend Quakers**



Sue Rhodes, Deana Owen and Peter Davies of Bridgend Quaker group with Bryngarw volunteers Nick and Alan Short.

Bryngarw volunteer Dave John helps Sue Rhodes to plant an apple tree.

rangers and volunteers have received enhance the parks natural support from the Bridgend Quakers historic setting, six tradigroup to enhance tional variety apple trees the park's historic were purchased locally orchard by donat-ing and planting and planted in the park's 100 year old orchard by ing and planting new fruit trees.

The Quaker group recently had to cut down a tree that was causing damage to the car park of their meeting house in Bridgend and wanted to do something to make up

One member of the group, Sue Rhodes, is also a loval volunteer at the 113 acres of parkland in Brynmenyn, Bridgend, in Brynmenyi, pringering and approached the rangers with the idea of rangers with the idea of the rejuvenation of "The rejuvenation of the rejuven

group to buy trees which enhance it further. Now we could then plant in the the orchard is more tree was compensated for crops of apples to feed by planting lots more. the park's wildlife and The park is full of diverse visitors alike."

BRYNGARW wildlife and the trees will Park not only provide a refuge environment

In keeping with the the Quaker group and volunteers, with expert advice on hand from the park rangers.

Park ranger Dan Lock aid: "When the ridgend Quakers Bridgend approached thought it was a fantastic idea and we're really grateful for their support. It was clear the group had a firm commitment to supporting the environ-ment and we were happy

onating some trees to the park's orchard is an Sue commented: "We ongoing project for us, so wanted to use the funds the obvious solution was we had raised within the to buy the apple trees to The idea was to diverse and in a few ensure that the loss of our years there will be good

VA NEWMAN **QUIZ LEAGUE**

ALTHOUGH the league season is cricketing over, there are still not out against the KO Cup and Glamorgan in 1959, after Plate finals to take which he was left out of place, so this week their next match? here are the usual selection of questions from some of Sea?

4 Which river rises in the Black Forest and empties into the Black tions from some of Sea? our matches:

1 Which halogen gas takes its name from the Greek for "Green"?

2 "Per Mare, Per Terram" is the motto of which of the Armed 3 Which well-known

4 Which river rises in

A Rudge (Hon sec Quiz League)

4 Danube. 2 Royal Marines. 3 Dickie Bird. 1 Chlorine.

We are now on Twitter follow us @gem news



Memories of the old department stores discussed

THE February meeting was opened by president Mary Poland, who took us through the interesting programme for the Glamorgan WI Show, to be held at North Cornelly in July.

The speaker for the evening was Mr Allan Underhill. His informative talk on the history of department stores was enjoyed by our members, his references to the large Cardiff stores being of particular interest as some of us remembered them well and others had worked in them many years ago. The new craft classes

have started enthusiastically with 15 members in attendance. Crafts will include papercraft, patchwork and watercolour painting to begin, with a further varied

orogramme anticipated.
The fine weather has given the walking group an early start this year, and weekly walks are being planned.

Some ladies joined the Glamorgan Federation 'Top to Toe Health and Well-being'

COITY WI

day in Cardiff. The programme included health advice, colour analysis and exercise with ballet dancer Christine Seaman.

The Penta Penybont Link spring meeting took place at The Mission to the Deaf Club with over 80 members present. After an excellent buffet dinner. entertainment was provided by the popular local barber-shop quartet 'Old Spice'. The speaker for the evening was life coach Cliff Arnall, who spoke on 'What it means to be happy'. Old Spice returned to bring the very pleasant evening to

The speaker for the March meeting was Captain John Evans, who entertained with tales of his exploits as a pilot in the 60s and 70s. The vote of thanks was

offered by Ann Mutton. The speaker at the next meeting on April 27 will be Russell Thompson, who will speak on 'Antarctic Experiences'. A warm welcome is offered to any ladies at Coity Church Hall at 7.30pm.

FOR two days, the per- Misérables.

Rosalind James (front row, third from right) with college students.

forming arts students at Bridgend College were workshop for the students where the able to benefit from the knowledge and experience of Rosalind James, who played Eponine in the

West End leading lady

coaches college students

On April 1, Rosalind held a Bridgend College's new 'state of art' 400-seat lecture

played Eponine in the 25th anniversary touring production of Les in the college spokeswoman said: afternoon and all day Friday to cast the college's production of Les for our students as many will go Les Misérables. **Bridgend man becomes** the vice-chairman of Billy

Graham charity group (55), who was born in Bridgend and lived there until his early 20s, has been appointed as vicechairman of the UK board of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA), a leading

Christian charity. Several members of Mark's family still live in the area and Mark is a regular visitor from his present home in

Basingstoke.

He has been a board trustee of BGEA for four years and is the managing director of MDN Fusion, a Basingstoke HR company which also has an office in New Delhi, and specialises in leadership development

It provides its services for third world and UK Christian charities in addition to commercial organisations and secular charities.

helping Child's Trust, a charity dedicated to the development of underprivileged children, mainly in India. Mark is also a board trustee of Samaritan's International (UK), the humanitarian organisation.

Spokesman Alistair McLean said: "BGEA was originally estab-lished in the USA by Billy Graham, the renowned evangelical Christian preacher, and it is now led by his son Franklin Graham.

"The organisation's UK headquarters are in

It is also committed to

London. In addition to

conducting a range of regional, national and international ministries, often in partnership with local churches Christian communities it also operates Rapid Resource Teams (RRTs) in disaster situations. "The BGEA RRTs

Mark Thomas.

ed by disasters – natural or the result of human action – by offering emotional and spiritual assistance. They help not only survivors and the relatives and friends of victims, but also emergency services personnel who may be adversely affected by their involvement.

"RRTs have been

active in the aftermath of disasters such as 9/11 and the Haiti earthquake, and British RRT team members have recently flown to Japan to assist survivors of the earthquake and tsuna-

Simon Barrington, executive director of SPI (UK), will work closely with Mark Thomas, as he will have a direct responsibility for overseeing the UK management team.

He commented: "We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and experienced individual as Mark Thomas taking on the key role of vicechairman in BGEA (UK). This is a challenging time for UK charities and we need individuals who can use their skills to ensure we are operat-ing as efficiently as pos-

"Mark will also have an important role to play in strengthening the links, co-ordination and close co-operation in activities between the UK team and the staff located in North Carolina, USA."

Porthcawl Lions' beach clean-up and book sale

PORTHCAWL Lions Club are gathering themselves together for a very busy weekend over Saturday and Sunday, April 16–17, with a major foreshore clean-up coinciding with their ever-popular book sale at the Seabank Hotel.

On Saturday, members of the public are invited to join the Porthcawl Lions in cleaning up the foreshore from Rest Bay to Sker Rocks.

The meeting place is the grounds of the Rest Hotel at 10am and the clean up goes on until 12 noon.

Further details can be obtained from Parish British and the 1056 772509 and

David Richards on 01656 772598, and he advises wearing stout shoes and thick gloves; other cleaning materials will be provided.

David said: "The clean up is scheduled for the weekend prior to the Easter break and is intended to show visitors to Porthcawl our beautiful sea

"We already have promises of support from many youth organisations in the town and we welcome members of the public to join us."

The start time for the book sale is also 10am on both Saturday and Sunday, and admission to the Seabank Hotel is as always free. Further inforavailable mation lionsclub36@hotmail.co.uk.

Town charities and other organisa tions intending to have a stall at the Porthcawl Lions May Fayre on Monday, May 2 are asked to contact Gloria on 01656 772272.

Colwinston school pupils charm the audience at the Vale Dance Festival

ON March 24, year-1 and year-6 pupils from St David's Church in Wales Primary School, Colwinston, took part in the annual Vale Dance festival.

Year-1 (above) danced to 'Jamaican Farewell' in colourful salsa costumes and year-6 (below) rock and rolled to 'We stick together' from *Grease*.

The children danced enthusiastically and it was clear from the huge smiles that everyone enjoyed themselves.

Class teachers Miss Lewis and Mrs Rosser were both extremely proud of the children's performances. The teachers would also like to thank Mrs Hammett and Mrs Bluck for their help with the choreography and their commitment to rehearsals over recent weeks.



Family hunt for eisteddfod

THE initial fundraising event of the Dinas Powys National Eisteddfod 2012 Committee was a success.

The fish and chip supper evening held at The Star, Dinas Powys on Friday, March 14, led to a total of £500 being raised, thanks to the generosity of the proprietors, the staff and those who attended.

The next event, to be held on April 16, is a family treasure

The walk around Dinas Powys, to uncover historical facts and secrets, will begin at St Mary's Catholic Church, Edith Road, Dinas Powys at 2pm and end at The Star, the Square, Dinas Powys. The cost per group will be £5 and everyone is welcome.

Further details may be obtained from: Gwenllian on 02920 704078or Jayne on 02920 513500.

The event will have to be

Big John to tell his story at literary festival

JOHN HARTSON, the former Welsh international footballer, who played for Arsenal and Celtic, is the latest big name to commit himself to the Cowbridge Literary Festival.

The festival – the first of its kind in the Vale – will run from May 16 to 22, and a key objective is to raise funds for Leukaemia and Lymphoma

Research.
One of the festival organisers, Stella Cheeseman, explained why it was appropriate for John to make an appearance at the

"John will be talking about his new book 'Please Don't Go -Big John's Journey Back to

Life "It is John's truly inspirational account of how he managed to overcome a very aggressive form of cancer, and will offer hope and courage to others

PUPILS SIGN UP TO BE

NEW TOWN DEPUTIES

by TIM CHAPMAN

affected by the disease.

'It is a touching and ultimately uplifting insight into the brav-ery of the popular football hero, who has fought back to full health in the face of adversity." John's talk will be the first

event in the festival, and will take place at the Bear Hotel on

May 16 at 7.30pm.
Tickets are £4 and are available from Stella Cheeseman on 01446 774827 and Ron O'Leary on 01446 774986.

Other big names lined up for the festival include Alastair Campbell, Tony Blair's former spokesman in Number 10 Downing Street, local thriller writer, Belinda Bauer and BBC Wales television presenter Jamie

For further information on the Cowbridge Book Festival, please go to www.cowbridgebook-festival.co.uk.

Porthcawl woman warns about skin cancer dangers

Porthcawl woman, than ever to be aware of the dangers of getting is urging young people to watch out for signs of skin cancer.

Each day more than two people under 35 in Britain are diagnosed melanoma – the deadliest form of skin cancer - according to new fig-ires from Cancer Research UK.

The startling new fig-ures come as Cancer Research UK launches its 'SunSmart' campaign for 2011.

The charity is revealing an alarming tripling in melanoma rates among 15–34 year olds across Britain since the late seventies when there were around 290 cases among this age group.

Now, more than 900

young Britons are being diagnosed with the disease each year – more than two a day.

Cerny. Caroline Cancer Research UK's SunSmart campaign manager, said: "It's very worrying to see that the number of young adults being diagnosed with this potentially fatal dis-ease has risen so dramatically, especially since cancer is typically a disease that affects older people. "With

approaching after such a narsh winter, everyone is looking forward to enjoying some sunshine. to sunburnt.

"Nor are sunbeds a safe alternative to tan-ning. In fact using a sunbed for the first time before you're 35 can increase your risk of melanoma by 75 per cent.

"Young women in particular need to take care since they are more than twice as likely to be diagnosed melanoma than young men. The good news is that the majority of cases could be prevented by making sure you don't get sunburnt."

Louise Day was diag-nosed with skin cancer when she was aged 18, after a small wart-like mole appeared on her

Her father persuaded her to see her GP and she did eventually book an appointment to have it checked out.

Louise recalls: "At

the appointment I was told it wasn't much to worry about, but that I could have it removed.

"Partly out of vanity, I wanted to go ahead with it, and so I had the mole removed at the GP sur-

gery.
"I had the shock of my life, when my doctor showed up at my house two weeks later with my notes in his hands. I was told I had malignant melanoma, the most serious form of skin can-



ABOVE: Porthcawl's Louise Day

phone to call the hospital so I could have emergency surgery.

"At the age of 18, I had no idea what malignant melanoma was. I nant melanoma was. I wasn't really an adult and it wasn't something I could talk about easily with anyone, as no one else knew what it was

Louise added: "After the operation, I had to wait a couple of weeks to find out that everything had been removed and that it hadn't spread.

"Being diagnosed with cancer as a teenag-

have different worries to your friends and you can feel so alone, it was a life changing experi-

"I was certainly not a sun-worshipper, but I had used a sun bed once, and wish I hadn't. The important thing is that anyone who is worried about a change in their body should go and get it checked out, it's incredibly important that we act upon these changes."

For more information visit visit the webs www.sunsmart.org.uk.

Jane sets the standard when it comes to loos!



ABOVE: Jane Phillips.

roll' of honour - as

Best Attendant in

Wales' in the 2010

Loo of the Year

Known as the Oscars

awards are

of the toilet world, the

designed to encourage

high standards in public

Borough Council's loos

wowed judges from the

Association with her commitment to cleanli-

ness and customer care.
Jane said: "I knew

about the Loo of the

Year awards before join-

Awards.

annual

British

FOLLOWING sharing experiences extensive consulta-

extensive consulta-tion with others ed,"; have enjoyed the across the care sector, including chari- cancer tor, including chari-table organisations, gained a lot of informa-Macmillan tion,";

"Each week was very breast care nurses in Bridgend are now hosting their third cerned enough for the rehabilitation pro- opportunity to attend gramme 'Moving such an excellent programme." Forward'.

months.

It covers a range of topics such as coping strategies, exercise, communication issues, the role of complementary role of complementary Wales Residences therapies and diet as well Community Lounge." as welfare advice and

been very positive, with comments such as:

useful and informative,' "I can't thank all con-

Fundraising manager
Debbie Jones said: "At
the end of the current programme tomorrow, on Friday, April 8 at 10 am however they are hosting something different – a

lingerie event.
"This is for all women who have had breast cancer treatment. It will be held in the Princess of

COUNCIL worker would actually win any-Jane Phillips has thing! "There are a lot of joined a prestigious

other people who work hard to keep public toilets clean in Bridgend County Borough.

We all work together to provide the best service that we can, so this is very much a team effort in my opinion.

Jane's award is not a conveniences.

Jane (56) who maintains Bridgend County

BCBC – the council tains Bridgend County awards for the loos at at Rest Bay and C o y c h u r c h Bridgend Bus Station, Crematorium, Maesteg Bus Station and Kenfig Toilet National Reserve.

Coychurch Crematorium and Rest Bay were also given the competition's highest rerapies and diet as well welfare advice and turning to work issues. The work is welfare advice and turning to work issues. The work is welfare advice and turning to work issues. The work is welfare advice and turning to work issues. The work is welfare advice and turning to work issues. The work is welfare advice and turning to work issues. The work is welfare advice and the work is welfare advice and turning to work issues. The work issues are ward, with four stars going to didn't realise that india. We will will be a work issues. The work issues are work in the work issues. The work issues are work in the work issues. The work is welfare and a work issues. The work issues are ward, with four stars going to didn't realise that india. We will be a work issues. The work issues are ward, with four stars going to didn't realise that india. We will be a work issues. The work issues are ward, with four stars going to didn't realise that india. We will be a work issues and work issues. The work is work in the work is work is work is work in the work in the work is work in the work is work in the work in the work is work in the work is work in the work in t standard five star award,

The pupils taking their deputy sheriff pledges with PCSO Dave Johnson.

MAESTEG has signed up after their local community and school on Monday, April 4. 100 new 'Deputy Sheriffs', pupils

pupils keeping a look-out for any roles. suspicious behaviour around their school, and they have all taken the and green watch fire fighters officers during term time and holiday deputy sheriff's oath of looking cially launched the project at the periods."

'helping' the police and fire serv-

from The pupils, in the their new Plasnewydd Primary roles as deputy sheriffs, have School met their local signed up to be honest, truthful, neighbourhood policing officers and fire fighters.

The scheme will involve the publis keeping a look-out for any one of the scheme will involve the publis keeping a look-out for any one of the scheme will involve the publis keeping a look-out for any one of the scheme will be a look out to any one of the scheme will be a look out to any one of the scheme will be a look out to any one of the scheme will be a look out to any one of the scheme will be a look out to any one of the scheme will be a look out to any one of the scheme will be a look out to any one of the scheme will be a look out to any one of the scheme will be a look of the scheme will be a look out to any one of the scheme will be a look of the scheme will be a look out to any one of the scheme wi

Local neighbourhood officers

PCSO Dave Johnson said: "The Deputy Sheriff project will help build stronger links between the school community and the local police and fire service. It is also about getting the entire community involved in keeping the area safe, and the deputies are encouraged to report any information to teachers, parents, and local offi-

Macmillan nurses helping women 'Moving forward'

This programme runs twice a year and is a four week course, aimed at those who have had breast cancer treatment within the last 12

returning to work issues. So far, feedback has

YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Children's teenage cancer centre A CONCERT was

recently held at the Bible Church, Aberkenfig, to raise money for the centre in the Royal Marsden hospital.
Pam Doster, whose

granddaughter Bethan (aged 18 months) is being treated for leukaemia at the centre, is a member of the Bible Church and Brackla Community Chorus.

She discussed the situation with both organisations, who agreed it was a great idea to hold a charity concert for such a worthwhile cause.

Gillian Ridout, the musical director of the community chorus. arranged the musical programme and spoke to the Pencoed Silver Band and Merthyr Tydfil Percussion Ensemble who both agreed to play.

They performed a selection of popular and well known music. The choir was accompanied by pianist Gareth Waite the band was conducted by Peter Davies, while the busy Gillian Ridout not only conducted the choir, but the young musicians in the Merthyr Tydfil Percussion Ensemble as well.

She also played the tenor horn for the band.

During the interval, a short video was shown on the big screen of Bethan starting her treatment and the situation at the present time, and this was very moving

Once again, the generosity of residents in the area was demonstrated as the concert raised £1 200 for the charity

Well done to everyone

THE Llantwit

attend."

Ogmore Vale Primary

School
MR Paul Booth, the headteacher, would like to inform all responsible adults of children at the school that the recent inspection report by Estyn on the school can be seen estyn.gov.uk/English/pr

ovider/6722369. All Saints Church, Pen-y-Fai

THE members of the church will be supporting Christian Aid on Saturday, April 9, between 12 noon and 1.15pm by providing lunches at Smyrna Chapel Hall, consisting of a bowl of soup, bread and a Welsh cake to everyone who would

like to take part.

The lunch will only cost £2.50 and, of course, money raised goes to the charity.

Maesteg Gleemen male voice choir THE Gleemen recently held their annual concert in a crowded Maesteg Town Hall.

It began with BBC presenter Chris Needs introducing the musical director and conductor Alun Hodges, and accompanist Suzanne Hodges.

The choir started with the Keith Christopher arrangement of 'Let all men sing', followed by the Bryan Adams hit Everything I do' with a solo guitar accompaniment by the up-and-coming Ben Hodges.

Then came 13-year-old Rhydian Jenkins, Bridgend junior section young singer of the year

Players at hall

Association is organising a fundraising

evening of Old Time Music Hall in the

Llantonian Hall on Saturday, April 16,

A twinning spokeswoman said: "It promises to be an evening of great entertainment, starting at 7.30pm

There will be a bar, and tickets are £10, including a

You don't need to be involved with twinning to

For tickets, telephone 01446 794729, or 01446

featuring the Pencoed Players.

Major

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include

every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL 1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ TEL: 01656 725399

email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk



Eisteddfod, with his clear renditions of Idris Williams' 'Gan yr Arad goch' and the famous Vaughan Thomas 'Nant y Mynydd'. There followed a con-

trast in music with the expressive baritone Gary Griffiths, a student of the Guildhall school of music and dance, where he won the coveted gold medal competition in 2009. He is now a member of the Welsh National Opera and started with the 'Toreador' from Bizet's *Carmen* and Meirion Williams's

'Gwynfyd'. Then the choir came on with two Abba hits 'I have a dream' and 'Thank you for the music'

The choir completed the first half with the spiritual 'Stand by me' and the well sung tenor composition of 'My Way' by soloist Gerald Seymour. The choir started the second half with the 'Y Tangnefeddwyr' com-

posed by Eric Jones through the German bombing raids on Swansea during the Second World War.

Then on stage came the joint winners of the Bridgend senior section young singer of the year 2011, twins Mari and Lowri Izzard. Both have been competitors in a number of Urdd Twinning Eisteddfods and are members of the Bridgend Youth Theatre. Mari sang 'Think of me by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Lowri sang her comical version of the 'Alto's lament' by Zena Goldrichboth, followed by a duet 'Bendigedig' by Robert Arwyn.

Again, there was a

2011 and boys' solo win- Griffiths singing 'Donne mie la fate a tanti' from Mozart's Cosi fan Tutte and the folk song 'My Little Welsh Home'.

The choir returned with the rugby international anthem 'World in Union' and the haunting 'Diolch I'r Iôr' by the bass soloist Gwyn Evans.

The concert was completed with music from the shows, Gary Griffiths singing 'Shenandoah' from the film and Stars' from Les Miserables

The choir sang
'Anthem' from Chess accompanied by guitarist Ben Hodges.

The Gleemen were pleased to announce that they have been chosen to perform in the Bridgend County Borough Council's Mayor's chari-ty concert in St Mary's RC Church, Ewenny Road, Bridgend, tomorrow (Friday, April 8) at 7pm.

They would also like to congratulate Hayley Morris and Carl Kelly on their forthcoming wedding at St Cynfelyn's Church, Caerau, on Saturday, April 9, during which the choir will lead the hymn singing.

Tvnvrheol Primary School

MR Martin Griffiths, the headteacher, would like to invite responsible adults of the children, school governors and friends to a special Easter assembly which will be taken by the Rev David Mortimer on Thursday, April 14, at 10.15am. This will be followed with the Easter bonnet parade.
The school will be

holding an Easter egg raffle with three prizes per class, and tickets will be on sale until

Wednesday, April 13, the draw taking place at draw taking place at assembly on Friday, April 15. The cost of tickets are 50p each and all proceeds will go into school funds.

The school would appreciate the assistance of everyone by donating unwanted clothing, shoes, belts and bags in supplied bags at the school on Saturday, April 9, between 10am-1pm.

The school will receive 50p per kilo for the items collected, and this goes towards school funds. Please note, the school cannot accept bric a brac, duvets, wet clothes, pillows or pieces of material.

Tondu **Primary** School

MRS Sue Pilsher, the headteacher, would advise responsible adults of pupils, that Aberkenfig public library has excellent facilities to help children do their work in peace, with staff willing to help.

If children have not

joined the library, the school also has membership forms available in the school office.

Miss Handley's class would like to invite all parents and friends to share in their class assembly at 10 20am on Friday, April 8. Everyone is welcome to stay after for a cup of tea or coffee.

St John's Church, Aberkenfig MEMBERS of the church are holding a table top sale in the hall on Friday, April 8 at 11am, selling new or nearly new clothing, fancy goods, bric a brac and homemade cakes.

There will, of course,



Lowri (on left) and Mari Izzard with Rhydian Jenkins.



Maesteg Mayor, Coun Phil John, and Mayoress Jen with Gary Griffiths, Chris Needs, and guests from west Wales.

be refreshments on sale along with raffle tickets. Everyone will be most velcome

Maesteg U3A THE next meeting of Maesteg U3A is taking place earlier than usual because of the Easter holidays.

It will be an important

meeting because it is the group's first annual general meeting. At the meeting, the group will be presented with its charter and focus on the success of the current activity groups and look

activity groups and rook at the range of opportu-nities for the future. The meeting will take place in the Central Church Hall on Tuesday,

April 12, at 2.30pm. Local U3As are learning co-operatives which draw upon the knowledge, experience and skills of their own members to organise and provide interest groups. The U3A approach to learning is – learning for pleasure.

New members wishing to join should come along or contact Geoff

Geoff.bushell@gmx.com or mobile 0770 8945393 The grand final is looming for battling bands

YOUNG bands have been battling their way through the heats for a place in The Gathering's 'Battle of the Bands' grand final on Friday, April 15, at Bridgend Recreation Centre (6.30pm).

(b.30pm).
The first heat took place on Friday, March 25, at Porthcawl's Grand Pavilion, where two local bands secured their place at the finals – Bloodycandy were the people's choice and Riot City Saints where the judges' choice.

County Bridgend Borough Council's arts development officer, Andre Van Wyk said:

"For the grand final, we have decided to do away with the first, second and third prizes and are giving real power to the public to vote and determine what band will be the people's choice with no judges involved.

ists will be awarded various prizes related to their strength of performance decided by a panel of judges from the

music industry.
"The focus for this year is very much on the bands having to work hard to obtain prizes. rather than simply a judge's opinion if a band

good or not."
For more information, call 01656 642688 or visit www.thegath-eringonline.co.uk.

Find us on Facebook -

just visit: www.facebook.com/gemnews

Who wants to build what and where in the borough?

Diocese Parsonage Board – 5B West Coychurch Road, Pencoed End Avenue, Porthcawl – installation of new removal of bay tree in rear

Greggs of the Midlands Former Kings Head site, Coychurch Road, Pencoed - 1 no. internally illuminated fascia sign and 1 no. internally illuminated pro-

jecting sign. Mr R Williams – **31 Austin** Avenue, Laleston – garage.
Somerfield Stores – Pyle
Service Station, Pyle Somerfield Stores - Pyle Service Station, Pyle Cross, Pyle Industrial Estate - forecourt canopy fascias, spreader boxes and nole sign

Lee and Turner – Waterton Lane, Waterton, Bridgend entrance board, wall sign and post mounted sign. Greggs of the Midlands - Former Kings Head Site, shopfront, air conditioning

Mr J Jenkins – 68 West Road, Bridgend – single storey extension at rear of

property. Mr R Mr R Bailey – 7 Sker Court. Porthcawl – demolish existing side garage and build two storey side exten-

sion. Mr W Dixon – **Land rear of** Maerdy Hotel, Coychurch Road, Pencoed - three detached houses

Groundwork Bridgend and NPT - Tarmac area, Gibbons Way, Marlas, North Cornelly - steel con-tainer 12m x 3m placed on tarmac (disused lorry park) to be used as a gym for

young people. Mr Christian Williams -The Hollies, Heol Las, Coity - outline consent for two detached dwellings with on-site parking and dedicated access

Mr Graham Forward – 10 **Heol-y-Capel, Coychurch** – single story shower room extension for disabled per-

Parkdean Holiday Parks Holiday Park, Porthcawl to permit occupancy of caravans for 11 months between 4 February and 4 January. Valleys to Coast Housing Land at St Illtvds Road, Bridgend – alterations to existing kerb lines and provisions of road improvements and new parking

Westward Community Centre - Llangewydd Road, Bridgend - installation of childrens soft play area to the rear with 2.43 metre high fence.

SE Cleaning Services – Car park at Bridgend Designer Outlet, The Derwen, Bridgend – occupation of parking spaces for car valet-ing operation and canopy installation.

Mr M R Ahmadi
Marlborough Mo Model Pantygog, Building, Pontycymmer perimeter walls by 900mm, renew roof and fit security shutters to doors and win-

Mr Peter Pendry – **6 Abbey Road, Kenfig Hill** –
Proposed shower room to side.

Industrial Air Power Limited – Coegnant Close, Brackla Industrial Estate, Bridgend - new modular office building and cladding to existing industrial unit. Bridgend County Borough Council – **Hyfrydol** Resource Centre, Cemetary Road, Maesteg change of use from B1 to 3 ofices to residential

dwelling. Mr R Jones – **6 Heol Cae** Tvla. Covchurch - conservatory to rear of property.

Rhondda Cynon Taff Rhondda County Borough Council – Land north of Brynna, Rhondda Cynon Taff - request for observations on scoping opinion for pro-posed replacement wind

V2C Housing Association -Heol Gelli Lenor, Maesteg
– construct residential supported housing scheme with communal accommodation, ext works and drainage. Mr P A K Turner – 3 Long

Acre Drive, Porthcawl single storey extension (toilet facility). Neath Port Talbot County

Borough Council - Mvnvdd Marchywel, northwest Cilfrew, Neath - OBS request for scoping opinion for wind farm including 11 wind turbines access track and assoc works.

Mr Russell Rees – 20 Coronation Road, Gilfach Goch, Porth - First floor rear extension. Mr G Evans – 11 The Retreat, Porthcawl - reten-

tion of new dwelling, revision to P/10/565/FUL.

Mr M Butler Greenmeadow. Cefn Cribwr - retention of three amateur radio masts/aerials and erect additional amateur radio mast/aerial.

Nr Jabsurat - 1 Fern Street, Ogmore Vale - first floor bedroom extension and internal shower room adaptions.

Mr P Popp - 39 and 39A Gloucester Buildings, Pontvcvmmer - change of use from shop to dwelling and replace shop front to form two self-contained

No 'call in' for drilling proposal at industrial site in western Vale

THERE has been disappointment in the western Vale that an application to drill for gas at Llandow has not been 'called in' by Welsh the Assembly.

Last week more than 80 villagers gathered at Llandow village hall to air their objections to an exploratory bore hole being constructed by Coastal Oil and Gas Ltd.

Last week in The GEM local people explained their fears of the so-called drilling process, dubbed 'fracking', which involves the use of chemicals, and which people claimed could lead to contamination of underground

Despite appeals from politicians and the public for the issue to be 'called in' for consideration by the Assembly, Environment Minister, Davidson, has decided

not to do so. Mr Tony John, the owner of Elizabeth-Anne Childrenswear Ltd, whose unit is next door to the proposed site of drilling and who has put in an objection to the Vale Council, said it was a blow that the Assembly would not be

scrutinising the matter.
"I am not being a
NIMBY, I wouldn't want this anywhere in ed with the Minister's

by TIM CHAPMAN

the country.

"There are alternative sources of power that we should be looking at using such as wind and sea power.
"We have the second

highest tide in the world in the Severn Estuary why aren't we looking at using water turbines They are in Scotland and Northern Ireland."

South Wales Central AM, Andrew RT AM, Andrew RT Davies, who lives in the Vale, said residents would now hope their fears were addressed by the normal planning process.

"I am deeply disap-pointed that the Minister has decided not to call this application in.

"It is my personal view that this is very much of national significance, as any similar energy extraction process would be.

"While I respect the Minister's views, and it is her right to make this decision, I now hope that local residents' concerns are addressed via the normal planning process of the local authority, with whom the final decision will

now reside. "Early last week I wrote to the Minister to make the request to call in the application and while we are disappoint-

decision we are grateful for the speedy turn-around by the Minister's

department."
As The GEM went to press last week Environment Agency Wales confirmed it had no objection to the initial bore hole.

A spokesman explained: "The agency does not have any objections to the proposed test bore hole for shale gas at the Llandow Industrial Estate.

"The test bore hole will be cased throughout its length, meaning that no aquifers or other water sources will be able to enter the bore hole."

However, Environment Agency spokesman added: "Any future applications to drill at the site will be subject to a number of planning conditions to make sure the local environment is protect-

The deadline for people to submit objections to the Vale Council's planning committee was last Thursday, March

At that meeting the committee deferred a decision, agreeing to carry out a site visit on April 14 prior to its

of State for Energy and Climate Change, Charles Hendry, for a moratorium on all shale gas exploration and mining in the UK given the concerns and uncertainties surrounding the extraction of this alternative energy resource.

"In the meantime, I'd urge concerned residents to write in to the Vale planning department with their objections before April 13 to make sure their late representations are heard in the next planning committee meeting on April

Coastal Oil and Gas Limited has emphasised that it is applying for planning permission to drill a cored bore hole to carry out "laboratory tests on shales that may be present in that area".

A spokesman also pointed out: "The bore hole may also contact the Devonian measures where conventional gas may be present; conventional gas requires no fracing, it produces under natural pressure.

"There is no fracing required and no interac tion with ground water with the current proposal: in terms of shales this evening meeting.

Vale MP Alun Cairns

proposal is the same as any other mineral explo-

PORTHCAWL HOSTS **URDD EISTEDDFOD**



ABOVE: The Urdd Eisteddfod for Mid Glamorgan was held at the Grand Pavilion,

Porthcawl, on Saturday, April 1.
The eisteddfod was attended by the Mayor of Porthcawl, Coun Mary Emment-Lewis and her Consort Bobbie Lewis, and she is pictured above with some of the winning children, and with organiser Jordon Morgan-Hughes. (PHOTOGRAPH by KEITH E MORGAN).

MAESTEG PUPILS TO WALK AND BIKE TO SCHOOLS



ABOVE: The 'safe routes' initiative was launched by the Mayor of Bridgend County Borough, Coun Colin Teesdale and Ogmore AM Janice Gregory.

A 'Safe Routes to School' initiative at Maesteg Comprehensive could lead the way for schools around

Wales to follow. The project, which was officially launched by the Mayor of Bridgend County Borough Coun Colin Teesdale and Ogmore AM Janice Gregory, has developed safe walking and cycle tracks to the school, as well as new steps. Other additions include bike shelters for pupils and staff.

Year-12 students have also been working with a professional designer to develop a brand, which could now be adopted by schools right across the county to encourage pupils to walk or cycle.

The chair of governors, Coun Keith Edwards, said: "At Maesteg we recognise that encouraging our pupils to walk or cycle to and from school is good for them and for the local environment. However, we needed to ensure they can do this in a safe and hazardfree way. This important project has created that official safe route and ve look forward to seeing more and more students using it."
Head Anne Carhart

added: "This has clearly caught the imagination of many of our students and it's great to see that some of the creative work they have been doing will now be used

across the country so that other young people and their schools will

benefit.
"We owe a great deal to the excellent work and support of our travel plan champion Mrs Sian Davies who has been the driving force

behind this project. Extra funding has now been secured to develop phase two of the project and the school is holding a spe-cial activity week in May to further encourage pupils to cycle and walk.

Cameron's surprise visit to Tondu firm!

Friday – the Prime Minister.

David Cameron was in south Wales to launch the party's Assembly campaign but was keen to visit a small business. business chosen

The First4Numbers, which is a company that prints numbers used by competitors in marathons and other sporting events.

The firm is owned by Porthcawl couple Darren and Sara Powell and employs four people. They have a unit at Tondu Business Park which is

owned by Business in Focus.
"I had a phone call on Wednesday asking if the Prime Minister could pay us a visit on Friday which was April Fool's Day," said Mr Powell. "I was very suspicious in case it was a windvery suspicious in case it was a wind-up but sure enough, David Cameron Cheryl Gillan and Nick Bourne, who arrived."

He spent about 40 minutes touring

the factory and chatting to staff.
"It was great," added Mr Powell. the policy of giving a rate rebate to were making," he added.

A SMALL firm at Tondu host- small businesses with a rateable value ed a very special visitor last of under £12,000 was beneficial. I was able to tell him that it was very help-

> The company prints numbers for major sporting events, including the world athletics championship and exports all over the world. One of their biggest orders comes from the London Marathon.

> "Thankfully, they use new numbers every year as sponsors change and they usually make changes to the design and colours to prevent people who have entered previously from just turning up with an old number."
>
> The firm was set up three years ago

> with all new equipment and Darren was able to explain to David Cameron what help he had received with the start up.

Assembly.

"There was a good discussion on the ways small businesses can be helped "He spoke to everyone and cracked a and I hope that all three politicians will few jokes. He was also keen to hear if bear in mind some of the points we

Dyffryn House is set for a return to its former glory!



1 gardens at Dyffryn, but for many years Fund. the mansion house, closed to the public.

Now, an ambitious project by the Vale

Vale resi- were delighted to be told dents enjoy visits to that £600,000 towards the beautiful Grade the scheme was agreed by the Heritage Lottery

The aim is to restore the principal rooms to with some of the the highest standard of original decor, has conservation to make been unsafe and possible public access to this county treasure in its stunning setting.

Words and pic-Council, costing £1.36 million, is getting under way. Friends of Dyffryn MARCH



'Repeatedly putting its workers at risk'

Llandow roofing company failed to keep workers safe

company has been Prohibition Notice to sentenced after repeatedly putting its workers at risk by ignoring urgent height. orders to improve

to ban smoking out-

complete ban will take

effect from November.

Hospital entrance

smoking ban is

welcomed by AM

AN Assembly couraging smoking than Member has wel-

comed the decision would be. Many people

entrances in the entrances, not to mention

Vale from the start the bad image it proj-

Initially, patients and He added: "The next staff will be able to step is for the health

smoke in certain designated areas, although a and patients in the lead-

Andrew RT Davies commented: "This is a that smoking is an addicpositive move by the tion and that people must

health board, and is a less be treated and supported dictatorial way of dis-accordingly."

ects.

November.

smoke hospital around

finding employees were being put at risk of a potentially fatal fall from

Three workers were safety. spotted replacing tiles on The Health and Safety a sloping roof near an

bemoan the smell and

He added: "The next

up to the blanket ban in

related litter

hospital

Thornhill Court in Regulations 2005, and Cardiff on August 5, was fined £5,985 and Cardiff on August 5,

Cardiff Magistrates
Court heard the employees were working between eight and 10 metres above the ground. A visiting HSE inspector issued the notice, ordering work to stop immedi-ately until safety barriers

HSE told the court that CFR Flat Roofing had previously received a prohibition notice for breaching the Work at Height regulations in January 2010, and had been made aware of their duties under regulations.

However, on the return visit, HSE found the firm had again failed to ensure work at height was carried out safely with suitable equipment, and no precautions were in place to prevent any of their three employees

from falling off the roof. Martin Nealon, trading as CFR Flat Roofing, of Vale Business Park, Llandow, in the Vale, pleaded guilty to breach- HSE's website.

ordered to pay costs of

HSE inspector, Simon commented: Breen "Falls from height are the single biggest cause of fatalities in the construction industry. CFR Flat Roofing had no excuse in were put in place on the this instance - they knew how to ensure the safety of their workers but decided to not to.

"If work is carried out at height then all appropriate measures should be put in place to reduce the risk of falling. Common sense and practical solutions exist to prevent fatalities.

"All employers have a duty to assess risks in the workplace and put in place sensible health and safety measures to manage them. More information on practical solutions to ensure the health and safety of workers in the construction industry can be found on the

Visit a **Countrywide Spring Machinery Event** Sat 9th and Sun 10th April 20% Product demonstrations on the day Expert advice Special event offers **country**wide FOR THE COUNTRY WISE

Bridgend: South Road, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Bridgend, CF31 3PT.

Tel: 01656 659115

'Trip to Auschwitz will live with us forever'

LUKE JAMES and Scott are By Luke James and George Scott George Scott are Barry Comprehensive School sixth form polthe opportunity to take part in an educational programme the the about Holocaust - including a one-day trip to Auschwitz

museum, we took coach journey to Coach journey to This opportunity is Auschwitz I.

offered to two sixth form students from schools and colleges across mous sign which swales by the Holocaust Educational Trust.

he town of Oswiecim once included a thriving Jewish community, which made up more than half of its popula-

People would come from far and wide to visit the town's famed 'Great Synagogue'. This was where we started our journey, at the site on which the synagogue once stood.

The Lessons from

Auschwitz (LFA) project led us to appreciate that the Holocaust destroyed not only lives but the cultures for which they stood, a key lesson of the project which we focused on in the orientation seminar preceding the day in Poland.

This seminar also included a moving recollection by a Holocaust survivor of her experi-ences as an Auschwitz prisoner.

It helped us to visualise the individuality of the victims of the Holocaust, rather than think of the atrocity in terms of statistics.

Second, we visited a Jewish museum, in which we were taught a valuable lesson in Jewish culture. This included a talk led by Rabbi Marcus from the Central Synagogue which allowed us to appreciate the beauty of the culture that Nazism attempted to destroy.

In this talk, we were told the inspiring story of Szymon Kluger, the

PALM

brating Palm

Inn car park at

Hall.

banners.

come for all.

last Jew of Oswiecim, who would open the had failed in their attempt to murder the Jewish population.

From the relative comfort of the indoor on museum, we took a

> The first thing we noticed was the infamous sign which says "ARBEIT MACHT FREI," meaning, "Work will set you free" – a symbol of the magnitude of the Nazis' deceit when trying to keep the prisoners orderly.

This well-preserved camp, originally built as barracks for the Polish Army, became the set-ting for unimaginable torture and suffering. It was here that we learnt about how the gas chambers operated, as well as the cruel punishments imposed on prisoners who showed any small sign of defiance against

harrowing aspect of the trip was witnessing with our own eyes the masses of possessions, looted and hoarded by the Nazis: hair, artificial limbs, shoes, suitcases glasses, children's cloth-ing.

we were also remind-Holocaust – be they vic-tims or perpetrators – were human beings, one of the key lessons from

the project.
After visiting
Auschwitz I, we were
taken to Auschwitz Birkenau, a huge, open camp in which the prisoners' hovels were converted from horse stables.

The size of the camp shocked us, with its

the 'shelter' and the latrines in which we learnt about the harsh living conditions of Auschwitz, as well as

At the end of the trip, a memorial service led by Rabbi Marcus was held at the site of Krematorium II. destroyed by the Nazis in an attempt to conceal the horrific war crimes

they had committed. In the service, a minute of silence was held for the victims of the Holocaust - only one minute, as we were told that if one minute of silence were given for each person murdered at Auschwitz, we would have had to have been silent for three years.

This poignant fact is one of many which we were taught by the LFA staff and which will remain with us forever.

During the visit, we,

alongside the other stu-dents, found that we felt numb, unable to take in that which lay before us

It was only afterwards that we were able to properly process that which we had seen and experience the emotional effects of visiting a

death camp.

We reflected on our own personal experi-ences of the trip in the follow-up seminar, dur-ing which we were also given examples as to how we can apply the numerous lessons we have learnt from the project to today's societv. in which, as we can see from current geno-cides such as Darfur, atrocities in the vein of the Holocaust are still

occurring.
Several cultural sites such as the Great Synagogue are long for-gotten today, but it is thanks to the LFA project that we can be sure that the atrocities that led to their destruction will never be forgotten.

'Magistrates court could become cinema' says candidate

THE Plaid Cymru "I would like to see candidate for the both a cinema and an Dr Johnson, has called on the Vale Council to look into the posbecoming a cinema.

The Theatre Royal on Broad Street, which hostentertainment for nearly 100 years, would be demolished under plans for an extra-care apartments on the same

Dr Johnson said: "It is plans, Barry would have

Ian extra-care facility for older people.

"However, with the Conservative govern-ment closing the Vale Magistrates Court on sibility of the soon-to-be-closed Vale Thompson Street, we Magistrates Court have an opportunity to revive the cinema in a town-centre siting.

"It should be possible to refurbish the courts to create two cinema screens and would be an or an extra-care including 42 a building which will

soon fall out of use.
"Any cinema development on the Island or the very sad that, under these Waterfront is some time off, but this could be to lose one community turned around in a short



itics students who doors of the synagogue were recently given each morning and close them each night in order to show that the Nazis the work forced upon the prisoners.

their Nazi captors.

Arguably the most

ed of the fact that all people involved in the

great expanses of land that offered no shelter from the bitter Polish inter winds. We were taken into

DRIVE TO CUT COSTS IS CONTINUING

Council looks to work with adult social care partners

STAFF working in both homecare and residential care servicresidential homes owned by **Bridgend County** Borough Council (BCBC) have been consulted about plans to bring in a partner organisation to provide some adult social care services in future.

A progress report to cabinet revealed that initial staff meetings have also taken place across the homecare teams, so that everyone knows about the current proposals, as well

as the process and timetable for change.

Last October, the cabinet decided to potential to remodel

es to "deliver long term care solutions economically affordable and provided high quality out-comes for residents".

The cabinet agreed in January to look for a partner organisation to manage aspects of residential and home care. An event has since taken place with potential providers of these services.

It was attended by more than 40 different providers from across England and Wales. Some have subse-

quently expressed an interest and follow up meetings have been arranged.

The council has also appointed Professor John Bolton to guide the council through the by JAYNE ISAAC

complex procedures involved. He has 40 years experience of working within the public sector on adult

social care.

Letters have also been sent to the families and carers of those living in residential care, examining the proposals under consideration and Age Concern Morgannwg will provide support for them, as well as for people receiving home

The council says that it is being driven to make these changes because of the pres-sures of increasing numbers of older people within the popula-tion and the need to

save £200,000 by 2012/13 and a further £700,000 the year after – a cut of almost £1m in two years.

Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for Well Being, said that he was grateful for the enormous amount of work which has already gone into the

He went on: "We need to ensure that the path we take is the right one for our serv-ice users, who receive an excellent service from our very commit-

important considera-tion within this process and any potential part-ner would be expected to recognise this."

Coun Morgan said that what they were doing was a "big ask" but the council has an excellent record of collaboration and partnership working and was committed to alternative and innovative solutions.

"Residents and staff can rest assured this will continue to be a robust and transparent ed group of care process throughout as we plan for the future "Our staff are a very of adult social care."

Sports pavilion unveils new look



MEMBERS of sports clubs in Cornelly were out in force this week to show their support for the recently refurbished sports pavilion.

The sports pavilion is located in the Meadow Street playing fields, North Cornelly and has been home to the local football, rugby cricket and run-

ning clubs for many years.

The building has seen its number of changing rooms increase from four to six, allowing more people to use its space, as well as a major facelift and refurbishment with rooms painted and

much needed maintenance work carried out.

The official opening saw dignitaries

and sports groups come together to celebrate a building that will hopefully serve the community for many

Councillor John Spanswick, cabinet member for communities said: "It's fantastic to see the support for a facility like this, its clear that many people have benefited from it in the past and we hope that the work that has taken to encourage sports and recreation in

BRYNCETHIN MINI AND JUNIOR ROUND-UP

Under-8s make it to the Ospreys cup final

IT was all to play for at the Liberty Stadium on Saturday night with a key derby match to delight the crowd.

Not the Ospreys and the Blues, but the youngsters of Bryncethin and Bridgend Sports, who provided a sizzling display of running rugby in the semi-final of the

Ospreys tag tournament.

Bridgend Sports 2, Bryncethin 5: Bryncethin soon took the lead and worked tirelessly to keep the Sports at bay.

A mistake in the Sports defence soon allowed Bryncethin to increase their lead.

Sports started to come back into the game and got a score of

their own.

Bryncethin crossed again only to be pegged back almost immediately, but this spurred on the youngsters again to score a further two unanswered tries to take a well deserved victory.

The coaches and parents of Bryncethin were delighted and proud of the display given by the children and can now look forward to the final against Swansea Uplands, to be played at

> We are now on Twitter follow us @gem_news Find us on Facebook just visit: www.facebook .com/gemnews

half-time in the upcoming Ospreys v Munster match on April 23.

Try scorers: Rhys Cawley (two), Shaun Batchelor, Jake Whitefield and Rhys

Williams.
Squad: Mike Gillette (captain), Thomas Bassett, Shaun Batchelor, Miles Blakeman, Rhys Cawley, Ben Daniel, Morgan Hughes, Ifan Hunnam, Jac Jervis, Will Laverick, Hollie Morgan, Cory Ryall, Jake Whitefield and Rhys Williams.

Under-10s THE under-10s were invited to take part in the tournament hosted by Bridgend Athletic at

Newbridge Fields. Bryncethin took a large squad of which seven members had played only a handful of

The first game was against Bridgend Sports. The turning point came late in the first half when the referee missed an obvious knock on that wrong footed the Bryncethin defence to allow the Sports to open the scoring.

Credit must go to the Bryncethin boys for accepting the decision and for showing plenty of character to go all out for the levelling score in the second half.

The Sports defence held firm and they were able to break away to clinch the game 2-0 late

on.
The second game was against new opponents in Newport High School Old Boys.

A very organised Newport side proved

difficult to break down, and with pressure being applied it was only a matter of time until Newport scored.

A flowing move saw Morgan Stevens score an excellent try but to no avail as the match finished 4-1.

The third match was another local derby against the Athletic There were once again signs of continuity from the Bryncethin boys with an excellent try from the ever reliable Scott Ryall, but not enough to avoid a 3–1

The final match saw yet more new opponent for the boys as they faced up to Penallta.

Although Penallta rar in a number of tries, the loudest cheer of the match was reserved for young Thomas Painter scoring for Bryncethin.

The final score was 4-1 to Penallta.

Although none of the results went the way of Bryncethin, the support ers were very pleased with some of the performances of the younger members of the squad, including Billy Sinclair, Lloyd Costigan, Thomas Painter and Mason Jones - well played

Squad: Tomas Jones, Daniel Osarigie, Keiran Dixon, Luke Board, Scott Rvall, Josh Napper, Jack Thomas, Morgan Stevens, Rhys Davies, Lewis Francis, Morgan Rimron, Aaron Thomas, Billy Sinclair, Lloyd Costigan, Thoma Painter, Mason Jones, Joshua Thomas, Finlay Mullens and Tobias

lease granted FROM PAGE 1) They argued that the of no longer than 25 proposed use of the land as a skate park means town council.

available to the public and can be used for The definition of an open space is land laid out as a garden, or for the purposes of public recreation.

Skate park's

The report says that, in effect, the land will therefore be available for use as an open space although in practical terms, it will be used mainly by skate board-

that the land is still

recreation.

They add that building the skatepark is not dissimilar to the building of the nearby playground – both are available for public use.

The freehold of the land will remain with BCBC which would ensure that the council retains control.

Officers stated that many of the issues raised were dealt with at the planning stage including highway issues, anti-social behaviour and noise

No objections were lodged on these matters from police, highways officers or public protection.

The cabinet accepted

for his transport.'

Local autistic

teenager's 90

mile journey

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

They continued: "On their return to the area the family chose to secure a further education place in

Beechwood College, Sully with the support of Careers Wales and did not approach the LEA regarding his placement or statement of 'special educational needs'.

matic lapse in his statement and means the authority is no longer responsible for David as a student or

to contact the college itself who may be able to provide some financial assistance for David's transport.

RH We wish David well in his further education."

"The move into further education caused an auto-

The spokesperson added: "The family may wish

the officers' recommendation to grant a lease years on this land to the

Coun Huw David, cabinet member for Resources, said that the proposed development would create a positive new facility for the young people of Porthcawl.

He said that while he was aware of objections, it was important to consider all points of view and he knew many others regard this development as an exciting new addition to facili-

ties in the area. He added: "We have many beautiful open areas within the county borough but we do not have as many facilities as we would like for ou younger generation.
"I think we should

give the proposed park a chance to develop and grow into what could become a very popular facility for the young-sters of this community to enjoy." Local member Coun

Alana Davies, who is also a cabinet member, declared an interest and did not take part in the

PACT looks at Penyfai wild horse problems

idents of the Penyfai-Court Colman area attended a PACT meeting to discuss the ongoing problems with horses in the area.

The meeting was attended by representa-tives of the police, RSPCA and Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), which have all been dealing

with these issues.

More than 200 horses were placed into fields in the area over the winter and prompted numer-ous complaints from worried residents con-cerned for the animals'

The horses belong to a Vale-based horse breeder and the RSPCA examined the animals at one point and confirmed that they were healthy and were being fed and watered. The

RSPCA and council officers explained that they have

and long term monitor-ing, and both have spent a huge amount of time on this particular prob-

south Wales.

welfare

lem.

It was reported that

many of these horses have also been seen on land in other areas of

The officers present maintained that they were acting before the Facebook campaign was started by residents, but members of the public argued that they had seen no feeding of the horses before the public

campaign kicked off.
The RSPCA is
involved with the problem of horses across Wales and talks are underway with the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG), which has the responsi-bility for it in Wales.

The charity pointed out that it can only act after a vet has examined animals and as long as they are being kept to the minimum standards required, there was nothstandards

ing they could do.

They said that the

Llangewydd Court will continue to be checked as there appears to be no fodder available.

BCBC is also liasing with WAG over the question of whether these horses have passports. Members present at the meeting suggested that if the passport laws were enforced, it could result in a reduction in

> being kept. Police confirmed that there had been fewer calls from residents about horses straying onto local roads but people at the meeting said that the horses were no longer breaking out in search of food as they are now being fed.

the number of horses

The meeting agreed to make the horses the PACT priority for this month and meeting chairman Alex Marshall offered to liaise with BCBC and the RSPCA on these matters because of the need for local knowledge. This was accepted.

The next PACT meet-ing will be Wednesday, behind May 4, at 7pm.

Aaron celebrates his double century with win

THE recent mini break in fixtures for Pencoed showed, with the team failing to recapture the form which had given them three consecutive bonus point wins.

However, they will settle for the four points away from home to consolidate their mid-table position.

As the scoreline sugests this was a pretty dreary affair, with little continuity in the match.

The stop start nature

RIGHT: Pencoed captain Aaron Halse in action during his 200th game for the Club.

Nantyffyllon Pencoed

of the match frustrating both players and supporters alike. Two Marc Davies

penalty goals gave Pencoed victory, and skipper Aaron Halse, playing his 200th game for the club, will take some satisfaction from the win.

Next up for Pencoed is Brynamman, whose rout of Cwmayon at the weekend will see them arrive at the Recreation Ground in confident mood.

Pencoed currently sit

five points behind the visitors in the league, with two games in hand, and need victory to stay in contention for a fifth or sixth place finish. TR



Students speak out in debating competition



ABOVE: Anne Campbell, the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, presenting Celyn Ripley of Brynteg Comprehensive School, with the award for best speaker.

The

Swansea.

stirring

overall team

was won by

Sir Norman

award, the Challenge

Ffynone House School,

Lloyd-Edwards, president of the ESU south

Wales branch, gave a

encouragement to those attending the competi-In his summing up, Derek Morgan,

chairman of the ESU

south Wales branch,

commended all the stu-

dents who had taken part and commented on the lengthy deliberations of

the judges, who had a

very difficult task given

the very high standard of

the presentations.

speech

SEVEN schools Deeside, as best chairfrom across Wales reached the final of the English Speaking Union (ESU) Welsh Schools **Public** Speaking Competition, which was held in Ty Hywel House, Cardiff Bay, at the invitation of the Presiding Officer, Lord Dafydd Elis Thomas.

The individual awards went to:

Celyn Ripley of Brynteg Comprehensive School, Bridgend, as the best speaker.

Arran Watt of Y Pant

Timothy Kingsnorth from Hawarden School.



ABOVE: Anne Campbell presenting Arran Watt of Y Pant with his award for best questioner.

PHOTOGRAPHS by KEITH E MORGAŇ



ABOVE (left to right): Derek Morgan; Lorraine Barrett AM (Assembly Commissioner); Anne Campbell; Capt Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards



ABOVE: The Brynteg Comprehensive School team.



ABOVE: The team from Ysgol Bro Morgannwg.

The team from Y Pant School.

Darren and Sasha looking for a home... can you help?

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals in their charge at Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone: 01656 725219)

THIS WEEK, Linda Feagan highlights Sasha, a lively little two-yearold Terrier Crossbreed: "She has been with us for several months. but is sadly still looking for her perfect home.

"She gets on with other dogs but she can be a bit feisty with them when she is on the lead so she will need some further training to help with this.

"She mixes well off the lead and can live with another dog. She is playful, very bright and has lots of energy.

"She will need someone who will enjoy attending training class-



es to provide her with more basic training and

There are more photos of Sasha online at www.dogstrust.org.uk. Call at Court Colman, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend, if you are interested in Sasha, or telephone 01656 725219.



Collie

pokeswoman Linda Feagan said: "Darren is a seven-

year-old

socialising – lots of fun for Sasha and you!"

"He is quite a sedate boy, and enjoys nothing more than a gentle stroll and a nice coudle. He is looking for a quiet home, with someone who can spend time with him, giving him the cuddles

ABOVE: Darren.

he loves! He would like to be the only dog in the home.

Darren, visit us at Dogs Trust, Court Colman, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend or call on 01656 725219. You can also see Darren and some of his friends on the website at www.dogstrust.org.uk

Fearless cat lovers to raise money for adoption centre



THIRTY fearless cat lovers are set to walk across hot coals and broken glass to raise money to help cats and kit-tens being cared for at Cats Protection Bridgend Adoption Centre.

It's not a challenge for the faint-hearted – a parefoot walk over a 20ft bed of burning hot coals

– or a 12ft bed of glass.

The once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will give participants the chance to walk across wood embers smouldering at 800 degrees without experiencing pain or injury. People who have previously braved a firewalk can go one step fur-ther and walk across a 12ft bed of smashed sterplace at 5pm, the fire

ile wine bottles.

The event, to be held at Bridgend Adoption Centre on April 16, will raise much-needed funds to help care for cats and kittens like orphan Annie, a five-week-old kitten found on a doorstep in the Bridgend area on March 26. She was starving hungry and was desperately suckling at the towel she was rapped in for milk

Sue John, who is fostering Annie, said: "I have been fostering kittens for 30 years and have never seen so many fleas on one little kitten - her nose and gums were white because of the fleas draining her blood.'

History society

THERE will be a meeting of Dinas Powys Local History Society on Tuesday, April 12 at 7.30pm at

Kynance Hall, Dinas Powys.

The subject of the meeting will be a slide show of vintage photographs from the collection of the late Percy Randell. Visitors welcome; entrance £1 for members, £1.50 for visitors.

walk at 8pm.

Last year's firewalk raised more than £12,000, and it is hoped this year's event will help raise even more!

Coun Jeff Tildesley, who has already braved the coals and will be taking part in the glass walk, said: "Please come along and support Cats Protection Charity's fundraising day, it's so important to raise funds for these cats.

Tony John, director from Shepherds the Vets, who are sponsoring the event, said: "Shepherds consider it a privilege to sponsor and take part in the fire and glass walks following its great suc-

cess last year."

Anyone wishing to take part should contact Bridgend Adoption Centre on 01656 726621

MEET DELORES
"Hi, my name is Delores and I am desperately seeking a new home. I lost my leg in a



Delores.

road accident but I still managed to carry my latest litter of kittens. I have had so many babies and done such a good job raising them, the staff tell me it is time I had some attention for myself.

I get about really well and enjoy chasing a ball and mouse around and having some fuss. I enjoy sunbathing in the garden

and exploring my sur-roundings.

If you think you could give me the peaceful, secure home that I deserve, please come and meet me at the

YOUTH SERVICE CUTS AIM TO SAVE £125,000 PER YEA

THE cabinet of the Vale Council has decided on a range of economies that will take more than £125,000 from the vouth service budget - including the removal of a post paying £43,000 a year.

The decision was taken at a meeting of council cabinet, and it involves making cuts in a range of areas.

The cuts equate to the equivalent of six full-time posts. Although the roposals will £125,000, there will be a cost of £11.248 to implement them, leav-ing a saving of ing a £113,764.

The biggest cut is the removal of the post of Senior Youth Officer which is currently v a c a n t . "Disestablishing" this role, as the report refers to it, will create a saving of £43,616.

The report considered by the cabinet said that the duties of this post could be shared within a reorganisation of the roles and responsibilities within a restructured

Another post to go, giving a saving of £7,071, is the Duke of Edinburgh's administra-

The report says that now the Duke of Edinburgh's team has been relocated to West House in Penarth, they will be supported by a 30-hour administrative post, and will not need a stand-alone post.

The council also intends to cease funding the post of Out of School Activities Officer, producing a saving of £14,055.

The report says that

this officer provides a line management and supervision function to an assistant Duke of Edinburgh Award officer, spending 11 hours a week on the task.

It says that these hours could be "sub-sumed into the roles of other officers in the Youth Service as this level of support is not cost effective

The report notes that the post is 73 per cent supported by the School

Improvement Service.
A further cut is to be A further cut is a made by looking at mositions. The trainee positions. The report says that two positions should be "disestablished" – and this could save £21, 484.

A further "disestab-lishment" will be the Community Project Worker position in Penarth, saving £20,351. The report says that,

due to cuts in grant aid and reductions in service spending, the role is becoming surplus to service needs and could be taken on by a part time leader.

ST ATHAN CUTS

Two St Athan services facing economies are the Rookies Youth Club and the St Athan Brass Band.

The report says that the youth service cur-rently supports these rently supports these voluntary organisations by funding salaries which are used to employ support staff to

help.

The report goes on: "These organisations would continue without this level of funding and the effect on them will be minimal. Reducing this support would develop a saving of £2,225."

YOUTH CENTRE CUTS

Two youth centres, Area 41 in Barry and the Cowbridge

by PHILIP IRWIN

open in a week, producing a saving of £8,206.

The report says that this would mean that

Centre, are set to cut the Area 41 would open number of nights they three evenings per week, and that Cowbridge would open for two.

Finally, the report proposes reducing part time youth service pro-vision from 39 weeks to 37 weeks.

explains: "The Youth Service currently opens its part time pro-vision for 39 weeks in

line with school terms. "Decreasing

part time evening youth provision is available from the current 39 to 37 would create a further saving of £8,004."

The report goes on to say that the Vale of

Service team will need to restructure and reorganise to be more effective and responsive to young people's needs and roles and responsi-bilities will be "rede-

What kind of dog will choose you?



We've got small ones, tall ones, cheeky ones and squeaky ones,



sporty ones, haughty ones, fluffy ones and scruffy ones.

GEORGE IS ATHLETICS MAP

COWBRIDGE could have a star in the making after George Griffiths went close to equalling a feat achieved by Olympic stars Kelly Sotherton and Mark-Lewis Mark-Lewis Cowbridge Francis at the Aviva Comprehensive School

climbed the podium twice at the flagship junior athletics development event of the year, finishing with silver in the standing long jump and a bronze in the two-lap

This was followed up with a ninth-place finish in the shot put to lift the



Sportshall UK final.
The 14-year-old pupil to third in the overall rankings with 274 points.

Griffiths was just 19 points off top spot, the same position Sotherton and Lewis-Francis held in 1992 and 1998 respectively, and despite missing out, the teenager was more than satisfied with his day's work. He said: "I am really

pleased with what I have managed to do at this sportshall final as not only have I finished third overall, but I also equalled a Welsh record along the way.

"In winning the standing long jump silver, I equalled the Welsh Sportshall record that stood at 2.88m.

"Next year, I am hop-ing to come back and break it because I am a year younger than every one else, so I still have a chance to improve.

The Aviva Sportshall is part of the Aviva Athletics Academy which encourages and enables children to get involved in athletics.

Aviva has been supporting British athletes since 1999 and paving the way for the next gen eration. Get involved in the Aviva Athletics Academy at aviva.co.uk/athletics

JON IRELAND

Pumas reach final

Pumas and Legal and General have always sible for the opposition to been close, and this get through. semi-final in the The Barry team's Lazarou Division 3 equaliser came with 10 cup did not disapminutes of normal time point.

Pumas started the better team with Callum Taylor scoring only a few minutes after kick off, but L&G replied with a shot that hit both posts

PREVIOUS encoun- ond half with Marcus ters between Barry Jones and Dean Hyde

remaining when Anthony Partridge's free kick found the head of Jamie Randall, making the full time score 2-2.

The second half of

shot that hit both posts extra time saw the win-before trickling over the ning goal, which came line. ang goat, which came when Spencer Lamb's A few minutes later, a long range effort by L&G managed to creep past the Pumas keeper the Pumas keeper separation of the net.

The Pumas keeper.

The Pumas defence
The Pumas defence
The Pumas defence
The Pumas defence
Triva Trains in the final.

MORGAN STEPHENS

Art Society

ON Thursday, April 14 at 7pm in the new venue in the annexe at Old Hall, High Street, Cowbridge (which is on ground level), the very popular artist Doug Eaton will be returning to give a demonstration in the use of acrylics.

Non-members very welcome to attend.



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Vale Council tenants stay with 'the devil they know'

chance to change landlords and are their homes staying with the Vale Council.

In a secret ballot of tenants in which 68.4 per cent voted (3,245), 49.2 per cent supported the transfer and 50.8 per cent were opposed. A Vale C

A Vale Council spokes-woman said: "Tenants in the Vale have put their confidence in the council and rejected a proposal that would have seen their homes transferred to a new local housing organisation, Heritage Coast Homes."

The council had argued during the consultation period that the proposals would secure the investment needed to bring homes up to the full Welsh Welsh Assembly Government.

aving made

cious start to

an ausni-

his career with the

2004 remake of

Dawn of the Dead,

Zack Snyder has

utation for films

He has taken us to

adapted the un-adaptable

Sparta with 300 and

with Watchmen, while

Snyder's next task is to bring back to the big

screen the iconic hero in Superman: Man of Steel,

but before that his latest

Entitled Sucker

Punch, it tells the story of Baby Doll (Emily

Browning), who, after mistakenly killing her

tionalized by her step-

vounger sister is institu-

Inside the facility, she teams up with a group of

that drip with

testosterone.

built up quite a rep-

in the Vale have voted to have the final say on the future standards. ownership and management of

> not be able to reach the full tenants and work to bring the Welsh Housing Quality housing up to standard.
>
> Standard or have the resources "In the end, I guess this was a improvements to our estates.

> We have been honest with tenants throughout the consulta- Franks was able to return to a tion and we will now start work to improve their homes, work- Plaid. towards achieving the WHOS."

Housing Quality Standard have had their say and it was a ferred. (WHQS) – as required by the high turnout, with a close vote, "Pla

Coun Gordon Kemp, the Leader of the Council, said: cil now is to work to meet the

Sucker Punch packs lots

young women (played by Abbie Cornish, Jenna

Chung), and they retreat

populated with dragons,

wartime aircraft and

will help them escape from their prison...

Zack Snyder has

talented visualist, his

(where he adapted the

screenplay from Frank

Millar³s graphic novel), Snyder has been work-

ing from other people's

material.

Sucker Punch is the

worked up himself, co-

writing the screenplay – and sadly, it is the weak-

est film the director has

yet made, the end prod-

wonderful yet is incredi-bly hollow.

uct a mess that looks

first film that he has

Malone, Vanessa

Hudgens and Jamie

of oomph - but misses target

COUNCIL house tenants "We always wanted tenants to Assembly's housing quality

The news surprised Plaid when their homes.

"We explained to tenants who said: "The council should that, without transfer, we would now respect the wishes of the

needed to make much needed case of 'Better the Devil you know'

The news meant that Mr point that has been concerning

He said: "Under an obscure HQS." UK government technicality, He added: "We will continue the Vale Council has had to to involve our tenants in explor- hand over about £5 million ing ways of taking the housing every year from its rental

lenging circumstances."

Labour's Coun Neil Moore told The GEM: "The tenants ceased had the stock been trans-

"Plaid will continue to argue and we support their decision. that this money should go in fu "The challenge for the couninto the housing repair budget. that this money should go in full PHILIP IRWIN £675,000 CLEARING & UPDATING SALE

PRICES CUT AGAIN -4 MORE SPECIAL DAYS

Our £675,000 Clearing & Updating Grand Furniture Sale has been a staggering success so far, but with so much furniture still to clear, we have decided to continue the special sale. The showroom closed Wednesday to cut prices even lower on a wide range of clearance items throughout the store.

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NOW £299

This is the type of film a 14-year-old boy would probably make if they were given \$82 mil-lion, full of attractive women in short skirts. fighting dragons and zombie Nazis with samurai swords and all manner of weaponry; and while Snyder, the arch-visualist, makes it look immensely cool, the story feels like it was written with scant regard for anything other than

meet never fully engage us - instead they run around looking cool and kicking proverbial bot-toms while titillating the target audience with their choice of attire.

home, Browning looking blank-faced and seemingly as perplexed as the audience are, while the rest of the cast either ham it up like Oscar Isaac's pimp/asylum chief, or just hover about School Musical' Vanessa Hudgens).

Anyone who has seen anything of Snyder's previous work will know how striking he can be, and when Sucker Punch

travels into its realitywithin-a-reality-within-a-reality (try to keep up) Snyder really earns his

This alternate world looks absolutely epic and is a perfect blend of genres and types, trench-es of World War I meeting medieval castles and hulking cityscapes. But all too often, once

the fighting kicks off.

these worlds feel like computer games without the control pads; there is never any sign of peril or danger, rather the feeling that if it all goes wrong you'll simply lose a life and restart the level, and that is Sucker Punch's biggest problem.

Despite wanting us to feel for the predicament of these characters, the story continually distances the audience from them – and no matter how many clever visuals or slow-motion sequences (something Snyder seriously needs to curtail) are on show, they cannot fix the plot

Sucker Punch is a supreme example of style over substance, and though it may prove a treat for young men whose dreams will have come true thanks to this film, for the rest of us it will just be another ano-dyne piece of cinema.

deficiencies

VERDICT - A woe ful film only enlivened by its strong visual sense, Sucker Punch misses the target com-pletely. Outside Zack Snyder's strong visuals, there is nothing to recommend the film, from the dull and lackadaisical screenplay to the lifeless acting performances, this is one film you can easily live withit. Poor.
SEE THIS IF YOU out.

LIKED: The Matrix, 300, Sin City

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SCREEN



by GARETH **JAMIESON**

that reason. The characters we

Consequently the performances fail to hit in the background with hardly anything to do (step forward High

Of course, visually the complaints dry up.

BARRY'S BRAVE DOUBLE WWI MEDAL WINNERS!

Local military historian and headteacher of St Cyres Comprehensive School, Dr Jonathan Hicks, tells the story of more Barry men courage during the First World War.

RAVERY on the battle-field is significant enough when recognised by the award of one gallantry medal, but for several Barrians of the last century, their contribution to the defence of their country was recognised twice.

Second Lieutenant Edwin Grant of the Machine Gun Corps was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal in July 1918 to add to his Military Medal, and was promoted to a commission for gallantry on the Western Front.

Formerly of 36, Trinity Street, he had been recommended for a commission in the field for services rendered on the Western Front during the Somme retirement.

He won his Military Medal when his Company was cut off and the officer in charge having fallen, Sergeant Grant took command and succeeded in getting them safely back to

their own trenches. He won the DCM and the MM, on consecutive days, one during a night attack and the other the next day.

His citation for the DCM read: 'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty while in charge of a machine gun in the front line during an enemy attack. Though enfiladed by enemy machine gun fire, he worked his gun for several hours with the greatest accuracy, killing and wounding large numbers of the enemy. He was eventually wounded, but refused to be evacuated, and remained at his post.

When he enlisted three years before, he was employed as a fire-man in the locomotive dept of the Barry Railway Company. Two brothers were also serving; one of whom also won the Military Medal.

One of only three Barry men to win the Distinguished Service Order during the Great War was Major (acting Lieutenant Colonel) Evan Thomas Rees of the 10th Battalion of the South Wales Borderers. who was gazetted in June 1918.

He had won the Military Cross in January 1917 for 'val-our while fighting with his regiment in France' while a temporary capCadoxton School before the War, Rees was also a prominent local foot-baller. He was married to an assistant mistress Street School and they lived at Dovey House, Woodlands Road, Barry

Rees enlisted in the Army as a private in September 1914, aged 31, and after a course of training at Sandringham he was appointed to a commission with the South Wales Borderers in 1915, obtaining his captaincy and majority in rapid succession in 1916.

In December 1917, Rees was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, gazetted to the command of the 7th Battalion Norfolk Regiment and was mentioned by Haig in his dispatches.

Rees was wounded and taken prisoner by the Germans during their spring offensive 1918, winning the DSO for his courage in holding a post against the enemy.
His account of his

capture:
'On the evening of

March 27, 1918, after the enemy had made many attacks on my position north of Albert, I found that the position to the right of my battalion front was very obscure. I made a personal reconnaissance and as a result I established a strong post well to the right in order to protect my flank.

While proceeding from this new post to my original right flank, the enemy again heavily attacked. I had no alternative but to resolve my escort (one NCO and three men) and myself into a small intermediate post. In the fighting I was

shot through the left thigh and dislocated my right ankle, the remainder of the post were either killed or wounded. I sent one of the wounded with a message to battalion head quarters. The medical officer, having heard of our predicament joined us and while arrangements were being made for my removal (it was now dark) the enemy continued his attack and succeeded to a short distance in overstepping our post.

A wonderfully understated account of great courage and devotion to duty! Rees's story is an amazing one of an educated man who joined the Army as a humble private in the first flush of war fever in the summer of 1914, rising through the ranks to command a battalion, being wounded, made a prisoner of war and decorated twice for bravery

in the process. Barry's most highlydecorated war hero deserves much greater recognition.



Major James M.

Regiment, who captained the Barry
Association Football
Team in the 1913-14
season, died on April 9

of wounds received in action in France.

He was killed by a defective bomb

(grenade), which burst prematurely on March 11.

He has the unwel-

come distinction of

being the first Barry

player ever to be sent

Newport County player

James Wightman won

Service Order and the Military Cross. He was

off, when he hit a

just before the final

whistle in February

the Distinguished

awarded the MC in

November 1916. His

citation read: 'For con-

spicuous gallantry in action. He led a bomb-

ing party with great courage and determina-

tion, and repulsed the

thrower, and threw bombs continuously for

two hours. He has pre-viously done fine work.

place during the fighting around the Schwaben

This action took

Redoubt on Thiepval Ridge in September 1916 during the Battle

On the first day of the battle, July 1, 1916,

the 8th Bn. East Surreys

attacked at Montauban

men forward, two foot-balls were kicked out

and to encourage the

into no man's land to advance the attack.

Wightman was men-

tioned in Haig's dispatch of April 7, 1918, and was awarded the

DSO in June 1918 for

his bravery near Arras

phase of the German spring offensive of that

Three remarkable

men, now long-forgot-

ten by most residents

Their bravery is truly worthy of being

Jonathan Hicks's new

of their hometown.

remembered today.

during the opening

of the Somme.

'He acted as leading

1914.

Wightman, East Surrey

Second Lieutenant Edwin Grant DCM, MM.



The Distinguished Service Order.



Lt. Col. ET Rees DSO, MC.



Major James Wightman DSO, MC

crime thriller 'The Dead of Mametz', which is set in Barry in 1916, is to be published by the Welsh Books Council in

Copies can be ordered now through booksellers or Amazon. He will be signing copies of his new novel at Rarry Library at midday on Saturday 21 May.

In Business Update

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ducks, lambs

SPRUCE UP YOUR

HOME FROM HOME!

Social media for business:

An introduction

'SOCIAL MEDIA' forward' model. is the new buzz phrase.

What, though, does 'social media' actually mean, and how can it enhance your business?

Social media is essentially an online and enjoyable conversa-tion. Social media platforms that need no introduction include YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

These allow you to engage with others, including friends and

new business contacts Social media is an important tool for the dissemination of your business, its message and products.

Your audience are already there, are you? However, as with all things in life, a strategy is necessary in order to

succeed. Key concepts to an approach should be building and participat-ing in a community, with particular stress on trust and the 'paying it

Marketing has changed – word of mouth and the web are inextricably connected, and this is undoubtedly a golden arena for your business to participate

To plan your strategy, you need to identify: what your company does and what its social media objectives are; who your target audience and your competitors are; 'SEO' (search engine optimisation) and keywords: how much time you are willing to allocate (if you don't have the time, in2netwales can do this for you); metrics to measure your results; which tools to use.

It is imperative to remember that you need to build traction with your social media presence and campaign before speeding off into the proverbial distance. **PAUL JONES**

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For more information on the benefits of networking and joining the VWBN contact members@vwbn.org.uk.



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Wed 13 April 2011 at Halcyon Daze, *Cowbridge*, *6.30* – *9 pm*

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COMMUNITIES FIRST AGM IS HELD AT GIBBONSDOWN

Gibbonsdown and Court **Communities First** held its first AGM on March 29 in the Gibbonsdown Children's Centre.

Approximately 50 people attended, including board members, vol-

unteers, staff, residents and local partners. The CF co-ordinator opened the event and introduced five speakers who discussed their involvement with Communities First

They were: Debbie Worth, from Options Training; Tracey Downes, from the Penarth Youth Project and the Vale Youth Forum; Pat Gilbert, from the Gibbonsdown and Court Luncheon Club; Julie Griffiths and

Michelle Sullivan, from the CF People's Allotment Group: and Phil Beaman from the parks department, Vale Council.

They shared their experiences of various projects and partnerships with Communities First over the last few years, including equality and diversity projects and most recently, the Iolo Park regeneration project.

Young people from the Gibbonsdown and Court Youth Forum showcased their short role play about their involvement in the Forum, and shared their experiences of the projects they were involved in, including a forthcoming one on Urban

Art. Communities First Partnership board mem-bers Jane Hutt and



ABOVE: Flying Start manager Antonia Bridges, Communities First coordinator Sharon Topazio, and partnership board member, Anne Phillips,



Gibbonsdown and Court Communities First People's Allotment Group chair, Julie Griffiths and Coun Bronwen Brooks.



LEFT: Coun Rhodri Traherne and Penarth Youth Project and Vale Youth Forum coordinator Tracey Downes.

everyone for attending.
Sharon Topazio,
Communities First coordinator said: "The

evening was a great suc-cess and it was due to

the local residents and

about the Communities

First projects they are involved with."

partners who spoke

PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Crossing Offa's Dyke and down Saxon way!

The weather forecast did not do justice to the sunny day that followed when six walkers and sheepdog Bracken joined Nick at Slip Wood near Bigsweir for a walk on the English side of the lovely

Wye Valley.
They walked downhill by road to the Bigsweir Bridge, built in 1827 as part of the turnpike road that was constructed from Chepstow to Monmouth and which connects Wales with

England.
This single arch iron bridge, cast at Merthyr Tydfil, was under covers as it is receiving a facelift and the group deviated on the left bank of the River Wye, to begin the

WELSH community

Mr Franks visited a

Wenvoe community orchard that was planted

The project was fund-ed by the Welsh govern-ment as part of the Tidy

Keep Wales Tidy works with community groups that carry out environmental enhance-

volunteers

Bridgend College.

Towns scheme.

ment projects.

Chris Franks.

gradual ascent through fields by way of Offa's Dyke path.

The Saxon King Offa constructed the dyke from Chepstow to Chester, to keep out the marauding Welsh and parts of the earthwork, which roughly follows the English/Welsh bor-der, are still visible in the lower part of Hudnalls Wood that the group climbed through to reach the narrow rocky path leading to The Nedge.

A short steep climb brought them to a road which in turn led to the village of St Briavels, which stands on a limestone plateau above the River Wye.

Opposite the majestic St Mary's Church, built in 1089, stands the 12th century moated St Briavels Castle, which

orchard was planted or farmland owned by

Mr Franks said: "I was

pleased to take part in this event. This commu-

nity orchard shows how we can create a better

environment by working

together.
"All the groups involved ensured that the

community orchard will be available for people to

enjoy in the future.

by

Wenvoe

Richard Reader.

lowing a visit by to help the Bridgend stu-Assembly Member dents. The community

from

was garrisoned for Henry 1 as early as 1130 and was granted to him, together with the Forest

of Dean, in 1141. Over the years, it has been a fortress, royal castle and hunting lodge to King John, visited by 11 who made it the administrative and judicial centre for the Forest of Dean, a prison, school, private home and today is a youth hostel.

The castle has commanding views of the valley between Tintern and Redbrook.

They followed the road out of the village before joining the Gloucestershire Way at Willsbury Farm.

Entering fields, the group stopped for lunch near the hedge line in bright sunshine before crossing a huge ploughed field, skirting some woodland, passing the enormous quarry and Community orchards Wildlife reaching the road at orchards have got Group and Bruce Plaid's backing, fol- McDonald were on hand

A narrow track led them into fields, and turning west they had beautiful views of the Welsh side of the River Wye which was way below them in the valley as they descended steeply.

In order to return to their start, the group crossed a stile to join Offa's Dyke path once more and followed the undulating pathway through Wyeseal Wood.

STRANGWARD



Development worker Michelle Sullivan, and Gibbonsdown and Court Youth Forum secretary Rhiannon Adams.

Popular judge returns to Barry Camera Club

WOLFORD LEIGH Gwynfa Camera Club has visited our club on many occasions and is one of Barry Camera Club's favourite **judges.**With his direct and experienced

style of judging, he also adds a sense of humour, which made for a very entertaining evening.

Judge's verdict

In the monochrome print category, pird place was shared by third place was shared by Introspection by Rob Owens, Cascading Eyes by Hugh Winnan and

Shy Girl by Steve Durbin.

In second place was On Stradbally
Strand by Rob Owens – a lovely beach
landscape, very reminiscent of Ansel Adams' landscapes. Joint second was First Rays In The Valley by Brian Trego – another stunning landscape; this time of mountains, trees and snow.

First place went to Secret Faces by Brian Trego – three characters adorned in white robes and white pointed hats,

in white robes and white pointed hats, an image full of mood and mystery. In the colour print category, third place was shared by four images – Autumn Mood by Steve Durbin, Geevor Tin Mine by Frank Cleland, Oh My Aching Back by Hugh Winnan and Canary Wharf Station by Rob Owens.

In second place was The Quiet Time by Brian Trego – a moody robed character walks down an alley past a blue

The winner was *Glencoe Sunrise* by Brian Trego – beautiful subtle colours of a wintry sunrise over trees and a

In the projected images category, in third place was Aquilegia by Kathy Edwards – a simple, colourful and well composed flower.

In joint second place was Figure In White by Brian Trego – a ghostly figure at the end of an alley, with children in the foreground.

Also joint second was *Jackdaw* by Phil Stillman – excellent detail, well captured with good composition and lighting.

The winner was *The Birds* by

Malcolm Downes - moody, sinister, vet brilliant.

Chairman Steve Durbin thanked Leigh for his time, good judgments and for an entertaining evening.

Barry Camera Club meets every

Friday evening from 7pm to 9.30pm between September and May at St Francis Millennium Centre, Porth-y-Castell, Barry Garden Suburb, Barry, CF62 6NX. New members are always welcome to attend, with no obligation

BARBRA ARCHDALE-SMITH

PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB NEWS

How technology has ended the tyranny of ghetto blasters

enhancements. such as the increasing portability of music, mean coping with a touch more technology to get the full benefit.

I must confess that I am not into music, but I understand that some people want to be constantly accompanied by it, especially on the

Remember the ghetto-blaster? A (barely) portable radio perched on a shoulder and blaring music to all and sundry. Technology moved on, reducing the radio to a truly portable personal cassette or CD

It continued to develop; arriving at today's vanishingly tiny MP3 players that store thousands of tunes.

Music lovers will have built up a library of music over the years and have a large collection of CDs

They would like what is on their CDs to be on their MP3 players. No problem.

It requires a conversion from the CD audio (CDA) format to MP3 format; a process called 'ripping' (in spite of the name, nothing is physically damaged in any

way.)
The CD's files are read and written to the computer's storage in a different format.

The computer then has a set of files, each of which is a track from the CD. These files can then be copied to the MP3 player's storage

for playing.
Steve explained the several advantages of MP3 files:

They can be played on just about any audio player.

Files on your

MP3 player form a back-up against the loss of a CD

Personal compila-

tions are easy

The new files can

be retained on your desktop and played directly from there as well. The music should be

obtained only from CDs that you have bought or you are in danger of copyright infringement. Steve used

Microsoft's Media Player to demonstrate the ripping process.
A simple series of

gramme started the conversion and completed the whole thing in just a couple of minutes, as opposed to the hour or so of music on the disk The speed is possible

clicks and the pro-

because the information is not copied in its entirety, but sampled many times a second.

The sampling frequency is adjustable, varying the sound quality of the new file, but the middle of the available range is normally satisfactory.

The human ear should not notice the difference in overall

sound quality. Media Player is a long-standing component of Windows and does far more. It can play video, recorded TV, and images as well as help with organising file storage.

If you are connected to the net, Media Player will try - and usually succeed - to identify the CD from an on-line database. This saves you from having to name all the track titles.

As for me, well, I'm just grateful that I haven't heard a ghetto blaster in years.

We next meet on Tuesday, April 12, at All Saints Lesser Hall at 7.30pm for 8pm.

Howard will be showing how drawings and designs can be produced using spreadsheets for fun.

Visitors are welcome. Enquiries to 02920 708439.

HOWARD DESMOND

GCSE decision time for year-9 Barry students A R R Y ence, but 50 per cent of general information the timetable is open to

Comprehensive School's year-9 pupils are preparing to choose the GCSE subjects they will study for the next two years.

All pupils will continue to study the core subjects, including English, mathematics and sci-

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student choice, guided by teachers and parents/guardians.

A school spokesman said: "Pupils have a great choice of new subjects including business and communication. ceramics, engineering and psychology. Some courses are delivered in conjunction with our partners Barry College and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive."

He continued: "The options process has been made as simple as possi-ble. All students have their own account on the Careers Wales website where they can access information about the specific courses at Barry Comprehensive and read

about the qualifications needed for different careers Pupils have a lot to think about but under-

stand the seriousness of the choices they have been trusted to make. Nick Currie said: "I would like to take a variety of subjects and hope

to pursue a career in Daniel Ladner commented: "I would like to take subjects such as PE and science and try to have a career in sports

science. Tristan Jeans said: "I would like to take history, Welsh and science and hopefully have a

career as a vet.

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION DATHLU 60 MLYNEDD O ADDYSG DRWY GYFRWNG Y GYMRAEG

60 great years of Welsh education success in Vale

medium education is thriving in the Vale.

Since the establishment of the first Welsh schools in Barry – Ysgol Gymraeg Gwirfoddol in 1951 and Ysgol Gymraeg St Francis in 1955 – the Vale now boasts five Welsh medium primary schools

Ysgol Iolo Morganwg in Cowbridge (192 pupils), Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth in Penarth Gymraeg Garthy-Gartin In Claid (325) and Barry's Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc (261), Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig (435) and Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant (210) provide children with opportunities to live and learn in the Welsh language.

Formal aspects of the national curriculum are interspersed with experiences of Welsh culture and heritage.

Secondary Welsh medium edu-Secondary Weish medium edu-cation is provided at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg (859 pupils), which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year and which has already achieved exceptional educational results.

Such has been the success of Welsh medium education in the Vale that demand for places has risen dramatically.

As a result of a survey of educational preferences, the Vale Council recognised a need to expand on its current Welsh language provision.

Two new schools will open in September in Llantwit Major and Barry, and work on a major extension has commenced at Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth.

Siân Owen, headteacher at Barry's Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig, commented: "It's fantastic to see how much interest in Welsh has grown in the Vale over the last 60 years. "From small beginnings to a

position where a major extension is underway and two new schools are opening is phenomenal.
"I am sincerely grateful to all

the parents who put their trust in us to educate their children through the medium of Welsh.

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SIXTY vears on and Welsh to the many headteachers, teach- complemented by a wealth of ers, staff, governors, parents and friends who've worked so diligently over the years to build our strong reputation, making today's expansion plans a reality.

Our 60th anniversary is truly a

time to celebrate.

Parents and guardians interested in places from September 2011 onwards at these new schools should contact: For Llantwit Major – Helen

Jennings, headteacher, Llanilltud Fawr Primary School on 01446 llanilltudfawrPS@valeofglamor-

gan.gov.uk; and For Barry – Siân Owen, head-

teacher, Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig on 01446 744222 or santcurig@valeofglamorgan.gov

For places at and employment opportunities with Ysgolion Meithrin, Mudiad contact Vanessa Powell on 0779 295 986 or go to www.mym.co.uk

The best Welsh in Wales

With only 14 per cent of Vale residents able to speak Welsh, according to the 2001 Census, it is not surprising that the majority of pupils receiving Welsh medium education are from non-Welsh speaking homes. What may be surprising in this context is the fact that the Vale's schools perform so well when compared to their peer group on a national level.

group on a national level.

On behalf of the Vale Welsh
Headteachers' Partnership, Rhian
Andrew, headteacher of Ysgol
Gymraeg Sant Baruc in Barry
said: "We are delighted that the
performance of the Vale's Welsh medium primary schools at Key Stage One and Key Stage Two are a source of great pride locally.
"We have the best Welsh results

in Wales among 6-7 year olds. That is no mean feat, when you consider that the majority of our pupils are from non-Welsh speak-

GET INVOLVED

to educate their children or with Welsh in the Vale. Strong with Welsh in the Vale. Strong leadership from Welsh schools is ly."

extra-curricular activities and preschool education

Cylchoedd Meithrin and Ti a Fi provide pre-school education at Penarth, Dinas Powys, Barry, Cowbridge and Llantwit Major.
The Urdd (Wales's youth

movement) has recently appointed Aled Williams as sports liaison officer to run a programme of sports activities locally for chil-

dren and young people.

The Urdd's accomplishments on the cultural youth scene are second to none, with its well-established eisteddfod tradition giving young people the opportunity to showcase their talents in song, recitation, dance and many other genres.

Both Welsh and English medium schools have benefitted from these opportunities.

Menter y Fro, the Vale's Welsh language initiative, also organises a wide range of activities for all members of the community, to promote the use of the Welsh language in the Vale.

In August next year, the National Eisteddfod of Wales will be held in the Vale and is expected to give a huge boost to interest in Welsh culture and language in the locality. Welsh courses for learners are anticipating high levels of demand as a result.

Dr Dylan Jones, headteacher of Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg and Chairman of the National Eisteddfod's Executive Committee said: "It's hugely encouraging to see increased interest in Welsh in the Vale and more opportunities to socialise in the

language outside the school gates.
"Parents often tell me how pleased they are that they can offer their children the chance to learn Welsh – a chance they were all too often denied by their own parents.

"Many grandparents are also pleased to see Welsh re-introduced into their family. The misplaced belief that only English would bring success has long gone.

"Bilingualism now thankfully is seen as something to be embraced – as an asset, definite-SIAN-ELIN JONES

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Addysg Gymraeg yn y Fro - Dathlu'r 60!

60 mlynedd lawr y lein ac holl rieni sy'n ymddiried ynddon mae addysg Gymraeg yn ym Morgannwg.

Ers sefydlu ysgolion Cymraeg cynta'r sir – Ysgol Gymraeg Gwirfoddol Y Barri ym 1951 ac Ysgol Sant Ffrancis ym 1955 mae yna bellach bump o ysgolion

cynradd Cymraeg yn y Fro. Mae Ysgol Iolo Morganwg yn Y Bont-faen (192 o ddisgyblion), Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth ym Mhenarth (325) ac Ysgolion Cymraeg Sant Baruc (261), Sant Curig (435) a Gwaun y Nant (210) yn Y Barri yn cynnig cyfleoedd i blant i fyw ac i fwynhau'r iaith

Gymraeg.
Caiff elfennau ffurfiol y cwricwlwm cenedlaethol eu cyfoethogi gan brofiadau o ddi-wylliant a threftadaeth Cymru. Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg (859 o ddisgyblion) sy'n cynnig addysg uwchradd Gymraeg i'r plant ac mae'r ysgol, sy'n dathlu ei deng mlwyddiant eleni, eisoes wedi rhagori yn y maes academaidd.

O ganlyniad i lwyddiant aruthrol addysg Gymraeg yn y Fro mae'r galw am lefydd yn yr ysgo-lion Cymraeg wedi cynyddu'n ysgubol.

Ar ôl cynnal arolwg ymhlith Ar ol cynnal arolwg ymniun rhieni o'u dewisiadau ar gyfer addysg eu plant, sylweddolodd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg fod angen ymestyn ei ddarpariaeth bresennol o addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg

Bydd dwy ysgol newydd felly yn agor ym mis Medi yn Llanilltud Fawr a'r Barri ac mae gwaith ar estyniad sylweddol i Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth eisoes wedi cychwyn.

Dywedodd Šiân Owen. Pennaeth Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig yn Y Barri: "Mae'n wych gweld cymaint y mae diddordeb yn y Gymraeg wedi cynyddu yn y Fro dros y 60 mlynedd ddiwethaf.

"O gamau bach ond pwysig, mae'r ffaith ein bod mewn sefyllfa lle mae estyniad ar y gweill a dwy ysgol newydd yn agor yn fuan yn

"Rwy'n ddiolchgar tu hwnt i'r

ni i addysgu eu plant trwy gyfr-wng y Gymraeg. Hoffwn hefyd ddiolch i'r penaethiaid, athrawon, staff, llywodraethwyr, rhieni a ffrindiau sydd wedi gweithio mor galed dros y blynyddoedd i greu enw da i ni, gan helpu i wireddu'r cynlluniau presennol. Mae dathlu'r 60 yn wir yn amser i

ymfalchïo yn ein llwyddiant."

Dylai rhieni a gwarchodwyr
sydd â didordeb mewn llefydd yn yr ysgolion newydd o Medi 2011 ymlaen, gysylltu â: Llanilltud Fawr

Jennings, Pennaeth, Ysgol Gynradd Llanilltud Fawr ar 01446 792368 neu llanilltudfawrPS@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk; a

Y Barri - Siân Owen, Pennaeth, Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig ar 01446 744222 neu ysantcurig@valeofglamorgan.gov

Am lefydd a chyfleoedd gwaith gyda Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin cysylltwch â Vanessa Powell ar 0779 295 986 neu ewch i www.mvm.co.uk.

Y Cymraeg gorau

yng Nghymru Gydag ond 14 y cant o bobl y Fro yn gallu'r Gymraeg yn ôl Cyfrifiad 2001, nid yw'n syndod felly fod y rhan helaeth o ddisgy-blion sy'n derbyn addysg Gymraeg o fewn y sir yn dod o aelwydydd di-Gymraeg. Beth sy'n syndod fodd bynnag yw'r ffaith fod Ysgolion Cymraeg y Fro yn cyflawni mor dda o'u cymharu â'u grwpiau cyfoed ar lefel genedlaethol.

Ar ran Partneriaeth Penaethiaid v Fro dvwedodd Rhian Andrew. Pennaeth Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc yn Y Barri: "Ry ni'n falch dros ben gyda chanlyniadau ysgolion cynradd Cymraeg y Fro yng Nghyfnod Sylfaenol Un a Dau. Mae gennym ni'r canlyniadau Cymraeg gorau yng Nghymru ymhlith plant 6-7 oed. Dyw hynny ddim yn fater bach o gydnabod fod y mwyafrif o'n disgyblion yn dod o aelwydydd di-Gymraeg.

mwynhewch!

Mae'n amser da i ymwneud â

Chymraeg yn y Fro.

Mae arweiniad cadarn oddi
wrth ysgolion Cymraeg yn
plethu'n dda gyda llu o weith-

gareddau meithrin ac all-gyrsiol.

Mae Cylchoedd Meithrin a Ti a Fi yn cynnig addysg i blant bach ym Mhenarth, Dinas Powys, Barri, Y Bont-faen a Llanilltud

Yn ddiweddar mae'r Urdd wedi penodi Aled Williams fel cydlynydd chwaraeon i'r Fro i redeg rha-glen o weithgareddau i blant a phobl ifanc. Mae llwyddiant yr Urdd ym maes y celfyddydau wrth gwrs yn amlwg, gan roi'r cyfle i blant arddangos eu doniau canu, llefaru, dawnsio, arlunio ac mewn llu o feysydd eraill. Gall ysgolion

Gall ysgolion Cymraeg a Saesneg fanteisio ar y cyfleoedd arbennig hyn.

Mae Menter y Fro hefyd yn tre-

fnu nifer o ddigwyddiadau i bobl o bob oed i hyrwyddo'r Gymraeg o fewn v sir.

Ym mis Awst y flwyddyn nesa bydd Eisteddfod Genedlaethol bydd Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru yn cael ei chynnal yma a'r disgwyl yw y bydd yn rhoi hwb enfawr i Gymreictod yr ardal. O garlyniad mae cyrsiau Cymraeg i ddysgwyr yn disgwyl galw uchel am eu gwasanaethau. Dywedodd Dr Dylan Jones,

Pennaeth Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg a Chadeirydd Pwyllgor Gwaith yr Eisteddfod: "Mae'n ganologol iawn gweld y diddordeb yn y Gymraeg yn cynyddu a twf yn y nifer o gyfleoedd i ddefnyddio'r iaith y tu allan i'r ysgol.
"Mae rhieni'n dweud wrthyf yn

aml pa mor falch ydynt eu boo yn gallu cynnig y cyfle i'w plant i dderbyn addysg Gymraeg. Mae llawer o'r neiniau a theidiau hefyd yn falch o weld y Gymraeg yn ail-

yn iaich o weid y dynnaeg yn air-gynnu yn eu teuluoedd. "Mae'r gred gyfeiliornus mai ond Saesneg sydd eisiau i lwyddo wedi hen ddiflannu, diolch i'r drefn. Mae dwyieithrwydd nawr yn cael ei weld fel rhywbeth i ymfalchïo ynddo - yn fantais, heb os." SIAN-ELIN JONES



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CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION DATHLU 60 MLYNEDD O ADDYSG DRWY GYFRWNG Y GYMRAEG

Is Welsh medium education right for your family?

If you are a family of non-Welsh speakers, choosing to thinking and behaving.

thinking and behaving.

Lona Edwards, Headteacher of Ysgol Welsh speakers, choosing to send your child to Welsh medium education - let's face it - is a bold move. It's a leap of faith, no less!

It can appear scary and feel as if you're relinquishing control over your child's education.

But, get over that initial hurdle and

the rewards are there for all.

Welsh medium schools teach Welsh through the 'immersion' technique. Pupils live and breathe Welsh, and all subjects, except English, are taught through the language. English as a subject is not introduced until Year 3,

when pupils are seven years old.

At one time, it was considered that you only needed English to get on in

That view has changed and languages are considered a skill and an

In Wales, the ability to speak Welsh as definite economic advantages and

is likely to enhance job prospects.

It certainly won't hold you back. Being able to speak two or even more languages improves a child's ability to use and learn language in general and can open up a deeper understanding of different traditions, ideas, ways of

Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth in Penarth said: "Children are amazing and I never cease to be astonished at how quickly they progress in Welsh. From the out-set in Welsh medium schools they are immersed in the language and it's great hear them learn, speak and play in Welsh'

Dylan Evans, Headteacher of Cowbridge's Ysgol Iolo Morganwg, added: "The Welsh language can be a powerful link between Welsh people everywhere and it differentiates Wales from the rest of the UK.

"It can provide people with an identity and a sense of belonging. Everyone in Wales can be proud of the language, even if they don't speak it. It belongs to us all!"

Headteacher of Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant in Barry, Rhydian Lloyd, said: "Welsh is for everyone. You certainly don't need to come from a Welsh speaking family to send your child to a Welsh school.

"Out of 210 pupils here in Gwaun y Nant, only one family in the entire school has parents who both speak Welsh fluently. We are proud of our track record and are delighted that so many families are choosing Welsh medium education for their children."

ymraeg byw i bawb

Os ydych yn deulu di-Gymraeg, mae dewis addysgu'ch plentyn trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg yn dipyn o beth – yn gam go enfawr i ddweud y gwir. Mae angen ffydd a gweledigaeth.

Gall beri pryder a gwneud i chi deimlo fel petaech yn gollwng gafael ar addysg eich plentyn.

Ond, os allwch oresgyn hynny,

Ond, os allwch oresgyn hynny, mae'r buddiannau yna i bawb.
Mae ysgolion Cymraeg yn dysgu'r Gymraeg drwy ddefnyddio'r dull 'ymdrochi'. Mae'r disgyblion yn bya cyn bod yn y Gymraeg, gyda phob pwnc, ond am y Saesneg, yn cael ei gyflwyno drwy'r iaith. Nid yw Saesneg yn cael ei ddysgu fel pwnc tan Blwyddyn 3, pan mae'r plant yn 7 oed. Ar un adeg, credai nifer mai dim ond

Saesneg oedd ei angen arnoch i lwyddo yn y byd. Mae'r safbwynt yna wedi newid a nawr mae ieithoedd yn cael eu cyfrif fel sgil.

Yma yng Nghymru mae yna fantei-sion economaidd i allu siarad Cymraeg a'r tebygrwydd yw y bydd yn helpu i wella'ch cyfleoedd o fewn y byd

Fydd e bendant ddim yn rhwystr! Mae'r gallu i siarad dwy neu fwy o iei-thoedd yn gwella gallu person i ddefnyddio a dysgu iaith yn gyffredinol a gall wella deallusrwydd yr unigolyn o

wahanol draddodiadau, syniadau, a ffyrdd o feddwl ac ymddwyn.

Dywedodd Iona Edwards, Pennaeth

Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth ym Mhenarth: "Mae plant yn anhygoel a dwi'n llawn edmygedd wrth weld pa mor gyflym maent yn dysgu Cymraeg. O'r cychwyn cynta yn ysgolion Cymraeg maent yn cael eu hym-drochi'n yr iaith ac mae'n hyfryd eu clywed yn darllen, siarad a chwarae yn

Gymraeg."
Yn ôl Dylan Evans, Pennaeth Ysgol Yn ôl Dylan Evans, Pennaeth Ysgol lolo Morganwg yn Y Bont-faen: "Mae'r iaith Gymraeg yn gallu bod yn gyswllt cryf rhwng Cymry ym mhobman ac mae'n gwahaniaethu'n gwlad oddi wrth gweddill Prydain. Gall roi hunaniaeth gref i berson a theimlad o berthyn. Gall pawb yng Nghymru fod yn felbe cy'r iaith bud yn ged o nad yn falch o'r iaith, hyd yn oed os nad ydyn nhw'n ei siarad. Mae'n berchen i ni i gyd."

Ychwanegodd Rhydian Lloyd, Pennaeth Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant yn Y Barri: "Mae'r Gymraeg ar gyfer pawb. Does dim angen i chi ddod gylet pawb. Does dim angen 1 chi duod o aelwyd Gymraeg i anfon eich plentyn i ysgol Gymraeg. Allan o'r 210 o ddisgyblion yma yng Ngwaun y Nant, dim ond un teulu sydd â dau riant sy'n siarad Cymraeg yn rhygl. Rydyn yn hynod o falch o'n llwyddiannau ac yn hapus dros ben fod cymaint o deuluoedd yn dewis addysg Gymraeg ar gyfer eu plant."

MYTH:

Children learning two languages will only learn them half as well as one.

Quite the opposite! Usually one language helps the other and it becomes easier to learn more languages later on. Bilingual children can speak, read and write English as well as children who attend English medium schools and have another language to boot!

MYTH:

Bydd plant sy'n dysgu dwy iaith ond yn eu dysgu hanner mor dda.

I'r gwrthwyneb. Fel arfer mae un iaith yn helpu'r llall ac hefyd mae'n debygol o fod yn

haws dysgu ieithoedd eraill nes ymlaen. Mae plant dwyieithog yn gallu siarad, darllen ac ysgrifennu Saesneg cystal â phlant

sy'n derbyn addysg cyfrwng Saesneg – ac mae ganddynt iaith arall yn ogystal.



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CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION DATHLU 60 MLYNEDD O ADDYSG DRWY GYFRWNG Y GYMRAEG

A HISTORY LESSON! OLRAIN YR HANES!

1951 First meeting of the committee formed to establish Welsh education in Barry in Number 9, Park Road, Barry, home of Mr and Mrs Dan Evans.

1951 September – December. Yr Ysgol Gymraeg founded in Salem Vestry, Barry, with the salary of the teacher, Miss Elinor Williams (later Davies) paid for by parents.

1952 January 9. The council adopts the school and Yr Ysgol Gymraeg moves to the two roomed Wesleyan Chapel vestry in Cadoxton. A total of 15 children attend.

1955 Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Ffransis founded in Barry, with 25 pupils. An annex called Coed yr Odyn was later added nearby for the infants, to accommodate increasing numbers.

1971 Ysgol Gymraeg Pen-y-Garth opens under the headship of Howard Goodfellow. A Welsh unit had operated out of Cogan School prior to this.

1974 Ysgol Iau Sant Baruc founded for juniors, with Elwyn Richards as headmaster.

1975 A Welsh unit is established at Ysgol Gynradd Y Bont-faen which becomes Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.

1979 Ysgol Iolo Morganwg officially opens, under the headship of Glesni Whettleton.

1991 With demand outstripping the places available, Ysgol St Ffransis has outgrown its premises and is merged with Ysgol Iau Sant Baruc. The new school, called Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc, operates from its current site at St Paul's Avenue, Barry. It is headed up by Dulyn Griffith, who stays in his post until his retirement in July 2010. Also 90 pupils are taken to form Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig, on the site of (Lower) Bryn Hafren Girls Comprehensive, with Eleri Hourahane as headteacher.

1996 Ysgol Gymraeg Newydd starts in temporary buildings on land at Ysgol Sant Curig and later became Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant.

 $2000\,$ $\,$ Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg founded, with 123 pupils and 11 staff, and Dr Dylan Jones as head.

2001 Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant opens at its present site, with Glenna Griffith as headteacher.

2011 September – Two new Welsh medium schools will be opened in Barry and Llantwit Major!

With thanks to Mrs Rachel Williams MBE (headteacher of Sant Ffransis from 1968-1988) and Mrs Eleri Hourahane MBE (headteacher of Sant Ffransis 1988-1991 and Sant Curig from 1991-2006) a Mrs Carys Whelan. Gyda diolch i chi am eich cymorth wrth olrain yr hanes – rhy bwysig i fynd yn anghof.

Vale pupils on the big stage!



ABOVE: Ysgol Iolo Morganwg pupils achieved national success in the Urdd Eisteddfod!

"Without the tremendous support from Barry's non-Welsh speaking community, Welsh language education in Barry simply would not exist. They deserve our grateful thanks." – Eleri Hourahane MBE

"Rhaid diolch i Gymry di-Gymaeg Y Barri am addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg heddiw.

Heb eu cefnogaeth nhw fyddai e ddim wedi digwydd." Eleri Hourahane MBE

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St. Ffransis ar y Bryn

Ar y bryn mae'n geinder bro, - a seren Nosau hir y Cymro; Daw i'n hen iaith dan ei tho Wych obaith a'i hachubo. W.R. Evans (headmaster at Ysgol Sant Ffransis 1959-61)

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A WARM WELCOME FOR WELSH SEED SCHOOL

CYLCH MEITHRIN Llanilltud Fawr has welcomed the announcement that a Welsh medium school will open in five months.

A spokeswoman explained: "Cylch Meithrin Llanilltud Fawr is delighted with the news that the Welsh medium seed school will open for intake of nursery and reception in September.

Welsh medium seed school will open for intake of nursery and reception in September.
"The Cylch Meithrin is currently working alongside Mrs Jennings and the LEA to ensure that Llantwit Major can provide Welsh medium education from two-years-old through to primary education, as well as regular Ti a Fi, parent and toddler sessions to introduce the Welsh language to babies and their families.
"For further information in Cylch Meithrin

"For further information in Cylch Meithrin Llanilltud Fawr, please contact Emma Hill on 07908 308294 or come along to a Ti a Fi session on Tuesday and Fridays, 1pm–2.30pm at Western Vale Integrated Centre."



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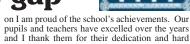
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CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION DATHLU 60 MLYNEDD O ADDYSG DRWY GYFRWNG Y GYMRAEG



ABOVE: Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg winners of the Urdd's seven-a-side rugby competition

Bro Morgannwg bridges the gap



It meant that, for the first time, pupils from the five feeder primary schools could continue their Welsh medium education together, within the county.

OPENING Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg

in Barry in 2000 with 123 pupils and 11

staff was a major boost for Welsh educa-

tion in the Vale.

Previously pupils wanting to continue their secondary education through the medium of Welsh had to travel to either Glantaf or Plasmawr in Cardiff, Llanhari or Rhydfelen in Rhondda Cvnon Taf - which were not exactly on the doorstep.

But travel they did, some leaving their homes as early as 7.30am to go to their chosen school.

"That's serious dedication," said Dr Dylan

Jones, Head of Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg. "It shows the extent of the commitment of both parents and pupils towards continuing with

Welsh medium education.

"Founding Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg was a godsend. I was fortunate to be appointed headteacher of the school at the outset and ten years pupils and teachers have excelled over the years and I thank them for their dedication and hard work.

Last year's examination results were certainly Last year's examination results were certainly something to shout home about. A-Level results were the best yet, with 99 per cent of the cohort recording A* to C grades in two or more subjects, an increase of 8 per cent on the 2009 results. At GCSE an amazing 90 per cent of pupils achieved the top A*- C grades in five or more GCSE subjects, surpassing last year's record breaking score of 78 per cent and therefore recording the school's best ever GCSE examples. Particularly strong was the attainment of results. Particularly strong was the attainment of pupils in the core subjects of Maths, Welsh and English where over 80 per cent of pupils attained a grade C or above.

Dr Jones continued: "As we celebrate our tenth anniversary at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg and 60 years of Welsh education in Vale, we look forward to welcoming two new Welsh primary schools into our fold and contin-uing with our successes, both in academic and extra-curricular activities.

Balchder Bro Morgwnnwg

BU agor Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg yn Y Barri yn 2000 gyda 123 o ddisgyblion a 11 o staff yn hwb enfawr i addysg Gymraeg yn y Fro.

Roedd yn golygu y byddai disgyblion ysgolion cynradd y Fro yn medru parhau â'u haddysg Gymraeg o fewn y sir am y tro cyntaf erioed.

Cyn hyn roedd yn rhaid i'r plant oedd yn dymuno addysg uwchradd Gymraeg deithio i naill ai Glantaf neu Phlasmawr yng Nghaerdydd, neu i Lanhari neu Rhydfelen yn Rhondda Cynon Taf - llefydd oedd ymhell o drothwy'r drws.

Ond teithio y gwnaethon, gyda rhai yn gadael eu cartrefi mor gynnar â 7.30 y bore er mwyn cyrraedd yr ysgol.

"Dyna beth oedd ymrwymiad o'r radd flaenaf," yn ôl Dr Dylan Jones, Pennaeth Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgawnnwg. "Mae'n adlewyrchu ymroddiad y plant a'u

rhieni tuag at barhau gydag addysg Gymraeg. Roedd sefydlu Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg felly yn fendith. Bues i'n ffodus i gael fy mhenodi'n bennaeth cynta'r ysgol a deng mlynedd yn ddiweddarach dwi'n hapus ac yn falch iawn o lwyddiannau'r ysgol. Mae'n disgyblion a'n

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hathrawon wedi rhagori dros y blynyddoedd a hoffwn ddiolch iddynt am eu gwaith cyson a'u hymrwymiad llwyr.

Rhaid canu clodydd Ysgol Bro Morgannwg am arholiadau 2010. Cawsant y canlyniadau Lefel-A gorau eto, gyda 99 per cent o ddisgy-blion yn derbyn graddau A* i C mewn dau neu mwy o bynciau, cynnydd o 8 per cent ar ganlyniadau 2009.

Yn arholiadau TGAU derbyniodd 90 per cent anhygoel o'r disgyblion graddau A* i C mewn pump neu fwy o bynciau, gan dorri record y flwyddyn cynt o 78 per cent a chofnodi'r canly-

pynciau craidd, Mathemateg, Cymraeg a Saesneg, gyda dros 80 per cent o'r disgyblion yn

llwyddo i gael gradd C neu uwch.

Dywedodd Dr Jones: "Wrth i ni ddathlu ein deng mlwyddiant yma yn Ysgol Gyfun Bro yn y Fro, disgwyliwn ymlaen yn eiddgar at groeag yn all-gyrsiol."

niadau TGAU gorau erioed i'r ysgol. Yn arbennig o uchel oedd y llwyddiant yn y

Morgannwg a 60 mlwyddiant o addysg Gymraeg sawu dwy ysgol newydd atom ac at barhau gyda'n llwyddiannau, yn academaidd yn ogystal

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RIGHT: Youngsters enjoy singing practice at Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun v Nant.





Thank you St Ffransis for being at the end of Five Mile Lane, but thank you even more for giving us the 'drive' to go for our own Welsh school at Cowbridge. Carys Whelan

"Diolch St Ffransis am fod ar ddiwedd 'Five Mile Lane' ond diolch yn bennaf am ein hysgogi i fwrw ati a chreu ysgol Gymraeg yn Y Bont-faen.'' Carys Whelan

Visionary pioneers

Remarkable thanks go to those committed few who found the passion to fight for Welsh medium education.

Those present at the first meeting at 'Number Nine' Park Road in 1951 were Aneurin Talfan Davies (chairman), Dan Evans (vice-chairman), T Raymond Edwards (secretary), Alcwyn Evans (assistant secretary), S.O. Rees (treasurer), Dr Edgar Jones, E Hall Williams, Vincent Pate, Glyn Ashton, Mrs Blodwen Jenkins, Miss Ellen Evans and Gwynallt Evans.

Later they were joined by Miss Olive Powell and Miss Norah Isaac

Arloeswyr o fri

Mawr yw'n dyled i'r rhai fu'n brwydro yn ystod y blynyddoedd cynnar. Diolchwn am eu brwdfrydedd a'u gweledigaeth.

Yn bresennol yn y cyfarfod cyntaf un yn 'Nymber Nain' Park Road ym 1951 oedd Aneurin Talfan Davies (cadeirydd), Dan Evans (is-gadeirydd), T Raymond Edwards (ysgrifennydd), Alcwyn Evans (is-ysgrifennydd), S.O. Rees (trysorydd), Dr Edgar Jones, E Hall Williams, Wisner But Gliva Alexa Mrs. Pladwards Vincent Pate, Glvn Ashton, Mrs Blodwen Jenkins, Miss Ellen Evans a Gwynallt Evans Yn ddiweddarach ymunodd Miss Olive Powell a Miss Norah Isaac



Y Gymraeg

Iaith araul, a'r iaith orau – iaith gudeg, Iaith gadarn ei seiliau; Iaith fy nhad, iaith fy nhadau, Iaith bêr oll, iaith i barhau.

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CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION DATHLU 60 MLYNEDD O ADDYSG DRWY GYFRWNG Y GYMRAEG

An early start in Welsh!

RIGHT: Cylch Meithrin Bontfaen an excellent start in Welsh education for Cowbridge youngsters.



A Personal Perspective

at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg in Cowbridge.

His three older sisters attended English medium schools in the Vale and elsewhere. Neither of his parents speaks Welsh. When the family returned from abroad to Wales, it was too late to consider Welsh language education for the girls but for Joel it was a different matter.

His mum, Karen, explains:

Why did you choose to place Joel in the Welsh system of education?

It was a combination of factors really. Our neighbour's daughter was at Iolo Morganwg and was happy there. I worked almost full-time and link-up between the state funded Uned Feithrin at the school and the pre-school Cylch Meithrin meant that I could have wrap-around care for Joel.

Was language a factor at all?

Yes, of course. My husband was brought up in Monmouthshire and wasn't given the opportunity to learn Welsh. He's always regretted that and was keen for Joel to learn the language.

When the girls were young we lived in Holland and they were exposed to a second language there. They have all developed good ears for languages and we were keen for Joel to do so too.

Did you have any concerns?

Certainly, but I'm glad to say they haven't materialised. We were concerned mainly that we wouldn't be able to help Joel with his homework.

But in reality homework often comes home with an English explanation attached.

There's also the Welsh Language Board's Homework Support Line*, although we haven't needed to use that at all.

As children grow older they become able to explain and translate things to you. I've heard it said that bilingual children have a better grasp of a subject if they have to explain it to someone in a different language. To be able to do that they have to fully understand what they are talking about. It's actually a good discipline.

*Welsh Language Board Homework Support Line: 0871 230 0029 or helpine@galw.org.

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Profiad Teulu di-Gymraeg

Joel is nine years old and is a Year 4 pupil Mae Joel yn naw mlwydd oed ac ym Mlwyddyn 4 yn Ysgol Iolo Morganwg yn Y Bont-faen.

Mae ganddo dair chwaer hŷn aeth i ysgolion cyfrwng Saesneg yn y Fro a thu hwnt. Nid yw ei rieni yn siarad Cymraeg.

Pan ail-gartrefodd y teulu yng Nghymru ar ôl byw ar y cyfandir roedd yn rhy hwyr i anfon y merched i ysgol Gymraeg ond roedd cyfle i wneud hynny gyda Joel.

Dyma eglurhad Karen, ei fam

Pam wnaethoch ddewis addysg Gymraeg i Joel?

Nifer o ffactorau i ddweud y gwir. Roedd merch ein cymydog yn mynychu Ysgol Iolo Morganwg ac roedd yn hapus yno. Roeddwn yn gweithio oriau ysgol ac roedd yn bosib cael gofal i Joel am yr oriau hynny, diolch i'r cyswllt agos rhwng Uned Feithrin yr ysgol â'r Cylch Meithrin.

Oedd y Gymraeg yn

factor o gwbwl?

Oedd wrth gwrs. Cafodd fy ngŵr ei fagu yn Sir Fynwy a chafodd e mo'r cyfle i ddysgu Cymraeg. Mae'n flin am hynny ac roedd yn awyddus i Joel ddysgu'r iaith.

Pan oedd ein merched yn ifanc roeddwn yn byw

yn yr Iseldiroedd a chawson nhw'r cyfle i gael profi ail iaith yno. Maent wedi datblygu clustiau da ar gyfer ieithoedd o ganlyniad ac roeddwn eisiau i Joel wneud hefyd.

Fel teulu di-Gymraeg oedd gennych unrhyw amheuon?

Oedd yn sicr ond braf yw nodi nad ydynt wedi cael eu gwireddu. Roedden yn becso yn bennaf na

fydden yn gallu helpu Joel gyda'i waith cartref.
Ond mae gwaith cartref yn aml yn dod adre â

on mae gwam cantre yr am yn dot aire a chyfieithiad neu esboniad. Hefyd mae modd cysylltu â Llinell Cefnogi Gwaith Cartref Bwrdd yr Iaith Gymraeg*, er nad ydym wedi gorfod gwneud hynny'n bersonol.

Wrth i blant dyfu maent yn gallu esbonio a chyfieithu i chi. Dwi'n deall fod plant dwyieithog yn datblygu gwell dealltwriaeth o bynciau os ydynt yn gorfod eu trafod mewn iaith arall. Mae'n beth da

*Llinell Cefnogi Gwaith Cartref: 0871 230 0029 neu post@gwaithcartref.com

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ABOVE: Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig pupils enjoying their outdoor activities.

Children get confused if they learn more than one language.

Not at all -0 when learning any language young children mix and experiment with words. This doesn't mean they're confused, it's part and parcel of learning.

MYTH:

Mae plant yn drysu os ydynt yn dysgu mwy nag un iaith.

Dim o gwbwl - wrth ddysgu unrhyw iaith bydd plant ifanc yn arbrofi gyda geiriau. Nid yw hyn yn golygu eu bod wedi'u drysu, mae'n rhan annatod o ddysgu.

A happy memory

Atgofion... Fan Dan Evans yn asglu'r plant bob bore Memories... Dan Evans' van collecting the children each morning

If you have memories of Welsh education in the Vale that you'd like to share with other GEM readers, please write in to the editor at gemeditorial@ tindlenews.co.uk

Os oes gennych chi atgofion addysg Gymraeg yn y Fro, ysgrifennwch i mewn at y golygydd gemeditorial@



Harri Williams and Lauren Dawe, house captains for Llywelyn raise the 2011 Sant Baruc Eisteddfod Cup.

Y Frwydr

Ar ôl pwyllgora a llafurio, Ar ôl pregethu a darlithio, I godi arian, pob rhyw esgus, A phoeni'r mawrion ym myd addysg, Fe gafwyd ysgol i'n plantos ni, Er llaith a thanddearol hi. St Ffransis wedyn, a Choed-yr-Odyn, Baruc Sant, unedau meithrin, A nawr yn dathlu'r oed yn ddeugen Ysgol arall ym Mryn Hafren. MARJORIE PATE (1992)





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Out and About with **The**

What is on and when & where in your area?

Table top sale THERE will be a table top sale in Peterston-Super-**Elv Church and Community Hall in** aid of hall funds on Saturday, April 9 from 10am-12noon.

Entry is free and everyone is welcome. To book a table, contact Pat on 01446 760267, tables are £5

This is in addition to

the usual village market, which is held on the second Saturday of every month in the small hall from 10am-12noon selling homemade cakes, preserves, produce, plants and books.

Freshly brewed Fairtrade coffee and teas are served. All proceeds go towards the improvement and maintenance of the hall.

Nearly new sale A PENARTH charity, BATS (Baby and

Sandville founder will speak to the LIFT members

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(Male Vocalist)

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ier Sunday Lunci

NICKY JONE

THE next LIFT between 10am and 1pm. group meeting will be in Cowbridge on Today) is a self-help Wednesday, April 13, between 2pm group for those affected by breast cancer. and 4pm, when The group meets reg-Gwyneth Poacher ularly to offer support from the Sandville and friendship for Centre will give a ple living in the Vale. talk on self hypno- visitors are always wel-

On Wednesday, April 27, the group has relax-ation therapies including 01446 772843 or Jan on the reflexology, reiki and ther information.

A voluntary organisa-tion, LIFT (Life Is For

members and

Contact Anne

Toddler Social) is holding a nearly new sale on Saturday. April 9, at the Paget Rooms, Penarth, from 2pm-3.30pm.

Entrance is £1 per person and there will be a wide range of chil-dren's and baby clothes, toys and equipment.

Art4U music workshop A MUSIC workshop is being held at Canon Hill Artspace,

Canon Street, Barry, on Saturday, April 9, between 12noon-1.30pm.

Instruments are provided, but feel free to bring your own and help create a special Art4U musical experience!

Art4U is a voluntary organisation set up to share creativity and the viewing of art with the community.

Llantrithyd coffee morning

THE Brooke Hospital for Animals, Vale of Glamorgan Supporters Group, is holding a coffee morning on Wednesday, April 13, at 10.30am at Llantrithyd House. near Cowbridge.

Entry is £3 (including coffee and biscuits) and home produce and cakes will be on sale.

Blood donors

THE Welsh Blood Service will hold donor sessions this month as follows:

Hall, Memorial Bryncoch, Bryncethin, Bridgend, on Friday,

April 8, 10am-6pm. **Bridgend:** Mobile Donation Clinic, Asda Store, Coychurch Road, Bridgend, Monday, April 11, 11.15am-1.45pm and 3.15pm-7pm.

To attend this session it is advisable to make an appointment as these donors will take priority. Please call 01443 622193 or e-mail

donor.appointments@wa les.nhs.uk to make one.

Vale: Bedwas Hall, Memorial Gladstone Road, Barry, Tuesday, April 19, 10amsignposted from the A48

(Aubrey Arms).
For enquiries, contact Alex Rees 01446 781286 or Joy Rees 01446 781955

Guild meeting THE GLAMORGAN Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers meets on Wednesday, April 13, at 7.30pm.

Claire Carter, the chair of Penarth Quilters Guild, will give a talk about different designs. The venue is The Old

School, Sully; members £2, visitors £5.

For further details, telephone Kirsten Gable on 01443 650336 or email kirstengable@hotmail.com

Easter fayre **BARRY Arts Centre** is holding an Easter fayre and auction at Barry Arts Centre. Winston Road, Barry, on Saturday, April 16 (doors open at 12noon).

Admission is 30p, with free admission for children accompanied by adults. There will be stalls with bargains for all the family, an Easter bonnet competition for children of all ages and games. During the fayre, there will be an auction of jewellery and gifts.

Contact 029 2063 3217 for more details.

Llancarfan jumble sale A JUMBLE sale is being held at Llancarfan village hall on Saturday, April 16.

The doors open at 1.30pm and all proceeds will go to local charities.

RNLI charity coffee morning

THE RNLI will be holding a coffee morning at All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Road. Penarth, on Saturday, April 16, from 10.30am - 12 noon. There will be cake, bottle, jewellery and scarf stalls, and a raffle.

Celebrate Easter early at...

Saturday 9th April, 10am-4pm Old Hall, Cowbridge

NEWS FROM THE PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Spring and summer walking programme has been finalised

THERE were no group walks at the end of March because members of the group.

Walkers can come to the magnificent waterfalls at of March because members of the group, including many walk leaders, spent the weekend in Pembrokeshire, where they are walking the Pembrokeshire coastal

Some were walking it for the second time, and fortunately they were blessed with dry weather.
Those leaders that were left behind took time out

to relax and enjoy some peace or reflect on their forthcoming walks for the next six months, as the new programme is in circulation.

The Thursday evening summer walks will begin on May 12, through to the second week in August with a series, usually less than five miles, that take around two hours to complete and are open to every-

So if you fancy walking for example, at Porthkerry, Wenvoe, Dinas Powys, Cosmeston, Barry Island and the Knap, Pop Hill and Biglis Moors or Nash Point to relax after a hard day, or simply to unwind or meet new people and to become healthier and fitter – this could be for you.

The new spring/summer programme contains

walks in the Black Mountains, the central Beacons, the Malvern Hills, Skenfrith, Margam, Afan Argoed, Trellech, Gower, St Fagans, Peterston, Monknash, Blackmill, the banks of the Taff in Cardiff and Garth Hill – to name but a few.

There will be a linear walk from Talybont in the

Brecon Beacons back to the Storey Arms using the local bus as transport, and two local train rambles

Church's arts and crafts workshop

ALL Saints Church in Victoria Square, Penarth, is holding an Easter arts and crafts workshop for accompanied children of all ages on Sunday, April 17, from 3pm to 4.30pm.

Activities will include Easter gardens, card make ing, chocolate nests and much much more! Refreshments will be served and the afternoon will include a short time of worship. All are welcome.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are 355942; 240223; 209944; winning numbers in 149517; 434723; 569954; Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number

 The rollover, which now stands at £3,000, was not won this week.

● **£2,000:** 792484. £10: 948990: 948990; 425827; 450950; 608297; 795838; 800604; 252418; 325374; 351933; 474856; 472264; 545642; 214025; 193409; 769273; 603238; 405980; 419570; 817479; 177559•

£5: 697908; 749557; 523143; 105143; 810823; 315864; 425429; 769019; 143654; 664286; please call 320779; 845052; 120894; 02920 672062.

302211; 602353; 578212; 868100; 379323; 116914; 529800; 362712; 677130; 188604; 211665; 134650; 596832; 662022; 348727 465573; 966817; 341859; 755217; 338162; 158117:

702040: 996907: 433456: 309933; 190065; 506158; 530964: 107314: 557134 692654; 485935; 495536; 780683; 228539; 194290; 131199; 384221; 793075; 767815; 116888.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information telephone

MAESTEG ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY



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All our work is funded by Charity Shops. We sell bric-a-brac, books, clothes and all items of furniture. Donations always welcome.

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Thanking everyone for their continued support

Pontneddfechan, or search for a waterfall or visit caves and take the one-man ferry in the Wye Valley, or nearer to home, visit the Giant's Bite near

The walks are in place, all we need now is some ood weather with clear visibility and a good time will be had by all!

On April 9, meet 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an 11-mile moderate walk in the Royal Forest of Dean; contact Val/Terry on 029 2070 6315/029 2059 5701

On April 10, meet 9.30am at the Barry Waterfront for a seven-mile easy/moderate walk at the Sharpness canal and the barge graveyard; contact

Janet/John on 01446 418514.

The mid-week walk on April 12 will leave Cogan at 9am for a six-mile moderate walk at Llandegfedd; contact Anne on 029 2070 0829.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks.

Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for

For details of other walks log onto www.ram-

JOY STRANGWARD

New exhibition at the station gallery

THE Vale of Glamorgan Artists' Group will be opening their second show, entitled Journeys 2', at the Traveller's Gallery at Barry Station on Monday, April 11, until Friday, April 20.

This follows last year's successful debut exhibition at the café/gallery, which is operated by the charity Mind in the Vale as a work experience setting for people recovering from mental health problems. It is open mornings Mondays to Fridays, 7.30am –

NATIONAL HUNT HORSE RACING Ystrad Taf Fechan POINT TO POINT

at Uplands Farm, YSTRADOWEN, Cowbridge Saturday, 16th April - 1st Race 2.00 pm Enquiries: Call Leanne @ 07890 373340 or Phil 707802 799131

Friday 15th to Sunday 17th April FOREST RAILWAY Just turn up in the Forest of Dean or save £s by booking online at www.dfr.co.uk You can also book in advance on For enquiries see website or phone 01594 845840. Entrance price includes all additional attractions including miniature railway and roundabout rides



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DYLAN CRESCENT, BARRY exteria. Driveway/garage (seller would like to remain if an investor purchases), enclosed pardons



Through living/dining room, Moder fitted kitchen, First floor bathroom Larger than a



GREENACRES, BARRY ooms, Modern mid link zing, Gas central heati king spaces, No chain. £109,950



GLAN HAFREN THE KNAP BARRY apartment, Balcony overlooking sea Living/dining room. Garage/parking. Viewing highly recommended £112.500



SEAPOINT THE KNAP BARRY £114.950



GLADSTONE GARDEN COURT BARRY Modern apartment, Central location, Two bedrooms, Fitted kitchen, Modern bathroom suite, Allocated parking, Balco £114.950



GLAMORGAN STREET BARRY traditional, Forecourted fr Living room, Spacious kitche Ground floor Bathroom, Upvo glazing, gas centra £119950



WOODLANDS ROAD BARRY Two double bedroomed, Mid terract traditional, Forecourted front, Livin £119,950



MONMOUTH WAY BARRY £119,950



KENDRICK ROAD, BARRY traditional, 24ft through living room, Dining room, Kitchen, Upvc dg - gas central heating, Offered with no chain, Town centre location. £119,950



ST MARYS AVENUE, BARRY ensuite, Through living/dining room, Kitchen/breakfast, Upvc dg - gch via combi, Walking distance main shops. £119,950



Double glazed, Gas £124,950



£124,950



rear garden, designated parking to rear, well presented throughout, £126,999



ENFIELD DRIVE, BARRY £129,950



CHURCHFIELDS, BARRY £129,950



MAES Y CWM STREET, BARRY Town centre location, three bedrooms terrace, gas central, double glazed, ground floor w.c., utility room, no chair Offers in excess of £130,000



WHITMORE PARK DRIVE, BARRY Two bedrooms, Living room Kitchen, Conservatory, Side access, Driveway, £134,500



RADNOR GREEN, BARRY pathroom, __garden, Garage/parking, glazing & gas central is £134,950



Previously a three bed, Exter Renovated in 2010, Master e Living room, Kitchen/diner M ing room, dista £137,500



CHURCHFIELDS, BARRY £139,950



WOODLANDS ROAD, BARRY ooms, Mid terraced traditional, Separat living room, Kitchen diner, with doors opening To sun terrace, Utility room, First floor bathroom, Enclosed garden. £139,950



DUNRAVEN STREET, BARRY ouble bedroomed, Bay fronted usus ough living/dining room, Fitted kitch ted appliances, Ground floor bathro ed level garden, Partial sea views f £144,950



ADENFIELD WAY, RHOOSE £164,950



WESTWARD RISE BARRY Two bedroomed semi detache living room, kitchen/breakfast bathroom with roll top bath, garden backing onto Porthcer £169.950



PARK CRESCENT, BARRY er room, Five bears views, Original features t Garage, sea throughout.



COLCOT ROAD, BARRY £179,950



LISCUM WAY, BARRY Three double bedrooms, Semi detached, Extended kitchen/sitting room, Conservatory, Driveway providing ample parking, Garage. £186,950



COLCOT ROAD, BARRY letached, Through living/dining room Sun lounge, Fitted kitchen, W.c. Cloakroom, Side room £187,950



GLAN HAFREN, THE KNAP, BARRY Two double bedrooms, Panoramic sea views, Garage/ample parking, View from every room, Beach front apartment, Situated on ground floor £189,950



WESTWARD RISE, BARRY nree bedrooms, Semi detached, Fa eaching sea views, Living room/din ing room, Conservatory, driveway/ garage, Viewing recommended. ing room, Co garage, Vie £189,950



HARBOUR ROAD, BARRY rraditional Edwardian property, 4 bed-rooms, Original features, Mostly upvo-gas central heating, Two receptions, Viewing highly recommended. £194,950



CILGANT Y MIELLION, RHOOSE Modern detached, Three bed-roomed, Living room, Dining room, Conservatory, Master ensuite, Garage/driveway, Enclosed garden £194,950



HARBOUR ROAD, BARRY bathroom, Viewing advised. £199.950



HEOL SIRHWI, BARRY HEUL June...
Three bedroomed, Link detached, iving/dining room, 2008 replacemen lichen, & utility room, Private enclose garden, Integral garage, Driveway providing ample parking, No chain.
£199,950



GLADSTONE ROAD, BARRY £209,950



HEOL LEUBREN, BARRY £ 229,950





£229.950



MAES GLAS, BARRY £234.950



HEOL MOOR, BARRY

£239,950





COED Y FELIN BARRY

CLOS Y FULFRAN, BARRY ISLAND

ar reaching sea views, Five drooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 rec oms, Kitchen/diner, Double garage, Ample parking. aching sea views, ms. 4 bathrooms.

£314,950



FORTE CAFE, BARRY ISLAND Semi detached dwelling, Dorma bungalow, Situated on a large plot, Three/four bedrooms, Iving room & conservatory, Sought after locatior Ample room to extend (subject to usual planning consent), Garage/driveway, Spacious living. £329,950 £329,950



£399,950



ALTUS HOUSE, BARRY contectually designed dwelling, from two years old, Three store stached house, Five bedrooms lectric gates & cctv monitoring Viewing recommended. £399,950



ay providing am £239,950

TANGLEWOOD, PENMARK ances, Orangery, Detached orange, Driveway providing over way providing ample parking.







ROB



ROB













THE GEM - 25



The Ath's unbeaten run comes to an end

LEFT: Full back Lyndsey MaCausland

BRIDGEND Athletic saw their unheaten league run come to an end at the hands of Bonymaen last Saturday. See the full match report on page 48.



ABOVE: Outside half Steven Lewis fends



Wing LLoyd Pemberton crosses for a try but it wasn't enough for the Ath.

Porthcawl under-16s reach Cup final after big victory

PORTHCAWL under-16s ABERCRAVE under-16s

PORTHCAWL under-16s powered their way into the Ospreys Cup final with a superb display of rugby at South Road in front of a large crowd.

Abercrave defeated this Porthcawl side in the Ospreys Cup previously at under-12s and under-13s when they went on to win the competition, so this was a game that the young Seaweeds were looking

The deadlock was broken by Tom Bluck, who received the ball in midfield after superb forward play and beat three defenders to score a well taken try which was converted by Huw

Winger Lloyd Rosser

Stanford scored after fine backs when the ball spread wide and, with the Abercrave defence in array, Rosser Stanford received the ball and beat his defender for pace to score in the corner; this was well converted by Mitchell.

A couple of forward

drives led to Iestyn Merriman crossing the line with three defenders on his back, and this was superbly converted from the touch line by Huw

Winger Gareth Rees got the fourth and final try of the half when good back play saw the ball spread both ways, until a long pass in midfield opened up the defence and the winger beat a number of defenders before diving

There was no let up in



Iestyn Merriman scores a try.

the second half and after scored his second try some good pressure from the Porthcawl forwards, a maul was formed and, from this Owen Wright went over the line to score the first try of the second half, which was converted by Mitchell

Young outside-half Mitchell scored next. showing great skill and strength to force his way over the line.
Winger Rees, who

The next try came from scrum-half Geraint Watkin who scored in The final try of the day came from second row Kieran Bluck, who showed a great turn of pace to score, following some energrising play.

Mitchell.

The final whistle was then blown as the 50point margin had been

when he danced around

a number of defenders to

score in the corner, and this was converted by

This was a fantastic game of rugby, played at high intensity and although a convincing win for the young Seaweeds, Abercrave played their part in a very entertaining match and full credit must go to them for playing hard intensity and to them for playing hard

up to the final whistle.
Porthcawl under-16s now look forward to a repeat of last year's final when they will take on Aberavon Greenstars at Llandarcy on Sunday, May 8, 3pm kick-off; supporters buses are being arranged.

Golf club enjoy success, and have plenty of fun!



Heather Jenkins and Del Raikes won against Llantrisant 7/6, on a very windy day at Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club

CAPTAIN'S MORNING

9 hole competition – We woke on Wednesday morning to the best start we could wish for, with blue skies and sunshine. The event was very well attended with our own

members and visitors turning out in force, making the day very special indeed.

A total of 28 teams entered with visitors from PYLE & KENFIG LADIES TEAMS

Maesteg, three teams, Grove (5), Neath (3), Gower, Swansea Bay (3), and Langland Bay.

The cakes donated were delicious and sold very quickly. There was also a great selection of prizes generously donated.

Prize winners were: Visitors: Grove – Irene Hopkins, 22 points; Grove – Jackie Sexton, 21 points; P&K: Cheryl Weston, 20 points; Norma Howell, 19 points

Thank you very much for all you support - it was

CORONATION FOURSOMES

March 23 (ongoing) – Winners: Cheryl Western and Mary Ellis, 37 points; runners-up: Ros Williams and Gaynor Lavelle, 34.

Pencoed under-10s prove their abilities

PENCOED underthe end of another

pions travel to Newbury Mikey Bosicy, 1011
RFC to compete in one Bending, Rhys Bending of the largest rugby festivals on the calendar.

Pencoed were up Lewis, Rhys Spurgeon, Patter Bending of Lewis and John Spurgeon, Patter an

Pencoed were up against district champions Plymouth Ivy Bridge, Bracknell, Portsmouth Newbury Trojans, Blues, Winchester, Reading, all of whom had a very good

tournament.
From the first game, The Bending boys were all r destructive at the mauls final. and Pencoed ran in five tries in their first game with a dominant display.

and again another five boys, your parents are tries were run in with proud of you all! out the day the pattern Sunday, April 10.

Unbeaten, and without 10s are finding their conceding a try, the final best form towards was set against unbeaten Bracknell. Sam Costelow snipped at will at the fringes while the attack-Successful season.

Last weekend saw ing line flowed rhythmiBridgend's district champions travel to Newbury Mikey Bosley, Tom

Ethan Davies and Ioan Richards controlled the scrums, and Ben Sullivan and Cael Chamberlain were first at the breakdowns, which set up quality ball that saw chance of winning the Pencoed run in five qual-

Special mention from Pencoed showed their the tournament organiser handling skills. Tyron was asked to be passed Harding always looked on to Sam Costelow and dangerous with the ball. Mikey Bosley for their all round play in the

These voungsters are improving all the time and all the coaches Cael Chamberlain agreed this was their best sucked in the defence, display to date; well done

none conceded. As the Next up is the games went on through- Dunyant tournament, on

COFFEE P & K LADIES DAILY MAIL TEAM The team played away against Southern Ladies in the third round. It was a well fought match but unfortunately we lost. I wish to thank all that were involved in the

team - the players, reserves and caddies and a special thank you to our supporters. It is much appreci-

We have three teams, and handicap dictates: 1st team: Sian Thomas (c), Alison Hurry, Joan John, Cheryl Western, Claire Morris.

Second team: Milly Phillips, Sue Forbes (c), Cora Edwards, Eira Jones, Gwyneth Parsons. Third team: Ros Williams, Heather Jenkins, Kay Sinclair (c), Lucy Evans, Gaynor Lavelle. PYLE AND KENFIG LADY VETS **AGM**

Activity
Captain: Sue Richards; vice-captain – Irene
Jones; secretary – Ann Thomas; treasurer –
Madeline Hanford; committee members (x2) –
Ros Cooper (three years), Myra Jones (two

P & K LADIES DINNER

FOLLOWING the dinner and prizegiving, a show of 'sketches' was put on by a small team of lady members which were hilarious.

Opening the show with Welsh folk dancing with

Opening the snow with weish fork dancing with the sad Welsh lady (leanette Vincent – the star of most of the skits) being excluded by the other dancers – it was so funny!

Clever golf poems, and more sketches, including the bus stop, entertained the full house, concluding with a panto on 9 holes, with a genie for each hole.

each hole

Lady captain Liz Attwood was delighted with the

Kenfig Hill rugby round up

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 48)

The Mules dominated the match. the second half but were only able to add one further try from full-back Mark Fitzgerald, who had yet another excellent all round game. There was a school of

thought that the coaches man of the match should be Mark Jones, but it was decided that flanker this defeat by the Keiron Tomlin should Ferry. win the plaudits with his best-ever display for the Mules, closely followed by fellow forwards Gareth Downes and Dai

Dent.
Also, a special mention for prop Steve
Burnett who gave another 100 per cent display
Burnett who gave another 100 per cent display
Burnett who gave another 100 per cent display
Burnett Kenfig Hill scorers:
Chris Leyshon (try), Lloyd Pradley (conversion).

GOS MB despite carrying a leg

injury that he received in the first 10 minutes of

Kenfig Hill/Cornelly Youth 12 **Briton Ferry**

A GOOD performance by the Youth in Ferry.

Callum Wilmot had another outstanding game with Lee Arrowsmith also playing well.



Performance packs punch as...



Calum Rogers on another strong run.

SOUTH Wales Police welcomed Cwmgrach to Cross Waterton and looked to build on the previous week's win against conversion. fourth-placed

Hirwaun. From the kick-off the Police looked to take the game to the visitors and within minutes found themselves a try up,

with some great passing finally seeing the ball go to centre Matt to centre Matt Cunningham who threw a lovely dummy to go over in the corner. Outside-half Ryan Miles hit the upright with the

The Police backs looked dangerous with ball in hand and fullback Craig Davies made some brilliant breaks and lovely angles from the full-back slot.

The Police excel against wmgrach

SOUTH WALES POLICE CWMGRACH RFC

The second try came when a good run from No 8 Calum Rogers saw the ball recycled quickly through several set of hands to Darly Thomas, who went over in the corner. Not to be outopposite wing Mark Downs added another try with outsidehalf Miles adding the

The Police pushed for the bonus point and it came towards the end of the second half with player/coach Bishop forcing his way

Prominent for the Police were Jason Davies, Gary Money, Calum Rogers and Chris Jason Davies Price

22



ABOVE: SWALEC Junior Stars winners, Tondu under-15s with coaches Jason Jenkins (left) and Andrew James.

Tondu under-15s win honour!

A JUNIOR rugby team international coaching staff, as lined his team's commitment to fundraising, overcoming adversity selected for a once-in-a-life-time training exportant. Center of Excellence for a full day wales international player, time training opportunity training session.

Tondu RFC under-15s have by Welsh energy provider SWALEC.

been selected to be SWALEC's 2011 'Junior Stars' and will join

and team play.

Wales international player, Ryan Jones, commented: "This is a great opportunity to showcase and recognise the teams who are really contributing to their club, SWALEC. three other winning teams.

A dream will come true for the junior side when they join memnominated by their team coach, them gain some valuable experi-



Ath A and B under-10s in tournament action

nament hosts this pool B. In a tense and Swansea Uplands As, the Bridgend Sports, who ran week and entered an A and B team.

POOL A: Bridgend Athletic under-10 As

Game 1: Ath played This set up a five- Game 2: Against a Gwilym John, Jamie Newport, winning 10-0 minute extra time period strong Crymych A side, Marshall, Connor with tries from Daniel with a golden try rule, they won 25-0. Fabian, Danial O'Sullivan and Connor and with approximately Game 3: The Bs played O'Sullivan, Thomas Fabian

Game 2: The As beat Penallta 25-10 with tries the Ath, 10 yards of scored by Dan from the Crymych line. O'Sullivan, Gwilym John (3) and Thomas John Anthony.

Game 3: Ath beat Bryncethin 15-5 with Connor Fabian (2) and Thomas Anthony scor-

Game 4: The As beat Bridgend Sports 35-0 with tries from Connor Fabian (3), Sam Veasey (2), Gwilym John, and Dan O'Sullivan. Ath upped their game to secure a place in the

As pool A winners.

We are now on Twitter follow us @gem news

THE Ath were tour- Crymych, who had won Game for the Ath.

THE Seaweeds visited

Cowbridge for the sec-

ond time this year after

scored the first try of the morning, but this was can

vidual try from Louis Protheroe. The Green and

Blacks' forwards were now

matching the Cowbridge pack and giving scrum-half

celled out by a fantastic indi-

on them back in

January,

inflicting a heavy defeat

evenly matched final the B's were unlucky to lose out winners in the plate final score in normal 25-20 in an end-to-end final. final score in normal 25-20 in an end-to-end time finished 1-1, with game with Jade Thomas

two minutes remaining, a Pontyclun As who ran Reed, Sam Veasey, Sion penalty was awarded to out 10-5 winners, with Vigus. the Ath, 10 yards out Jade Thomas scoring for

Ben Roach copious amounts of possession to play with. After some strong rucking from Ethan Waters, Ben Collins, Cameron Williams,

Pridmore, Lloyd Mortimer

backs finally got into their

Mahoney.
The Seaweeds were now

well on top and ran in three

more tries, from Ben Roach,

Harry Evans and Zakk

and Tim Leese, the Porthcawl

stride and scored their second

Max Budding, Kurtis

try, courtesy of Will

time finished 1-1, with game with Jade Thomas
Connor Fabian scoring
(3) and Louis King scoring.

Ath As: Teo Fillis,
Obbard, Ffion
Revill, Thomas Anthony, Thomas

Ath Bs: Jade Thomas Mary Study Sullivan Hondas Storing to Hondas Sto Dan O'Sullivan crashed over to score, giving the Ath a hard fought 10-5 win to lift the cup.

POOL B: Bridgend Athletic under-10 Bs

Athletic under-10 Bs

Athletic under-10 Bs

Again Carner Tondu As, who ran out Lance 2....

Tondu As, who ran out Lance 2....

Tondu As, who ran out Lance 2....

Evalts, the Ath Bs played Morgan Evans, James some good rugby and schwed some good character in each game.

Athletic under-10 Bs

Athletic Under-10 Bs

Porthcawl under-11s are involved

in a thriller against Cowbridge

Furness Jones, before half-

time.
This match, as they say,

the second period saw

was a game of two halves, as

Cowbridge emerge from their

stupor. The Vale side scored four

quick tries and could have

had more if it wasn't for the

defensive efforts of Connor

Harrington-Pittam, Callum

Azzopardi. This recovery,

though, was short lived as

Ben Roach claimed two hero-

Morgan and Matthew

Phoenix fight hard for well earned win

RIGHT: Marina Newth and Sarah Hughes stop a Whitland attacker.

PENCOED PHOENIX WHITLAND WOMEN

PHOENIX started well, winning early turnover ball at the ruck against their more experienced Division 1 West opponents.

The home side opened the scoring after 10 minutes. Wing Jo Poupon was denied a try on her birthday, held up just short, before scrumhalf Louise Jones capitalised on the resultant ruck ball to cross.

The visitors then went on the attack and only superb Phoenix defence kept them out, with vital tackles from centre Jade Mullen, and Marina Newth. skipper

Phoenix returned to the attack and following pressure on Whitland, Newth crossed determinedly from a short penalty. Approaching the interval again, good defence from Phoenix kept Whitland at bay, Mullen again prominent, along with Sam Humphrey, with tackles close to their own line.

Phoenix led 10-0 at the

Early in the second half, Poupon threatened with a swerving run infield, and only scrambled defence stopped Phoenix scoring. Full-back Hannah Jenkins was giving Whitland plenty of problems with her evasive running, often turning defence into attack

Phoenix stretched their lead flanker Amy Stevens pouncing on a loose ball following pressure at the

scrummage. Whitland kept themselves in the match with a converted try, but Phoenix ran out deserved 15-7 winners. The foundations for Phoenix

this victory were again down to the home pack, the front row of Charlie Willis, Lowri Reeves, and Alana Shakespeare on top at the set, with Shakespeare sporting a huge shiner post-match for her efforts.

Second row Hannah Brunskill again provid-

ic man of the match tries to

Seasiders.

seal a hard fought win for the

Both sides converted all of

their tries, with Ethan Waters

Final score: Cowbridge 35

Back of the match was Ben

Roach with the forward of

the match award going to

kicking for Porthcawl.

Porthcawl 49.

Ben Collins.





Amy Stevens breaks a tackle.

ed plenty of possession, with Mullen and Jenkins catching the eye behind

For the second match

unfamiliar flanker, was chosen as Phoenix player of the match by the opposition TR

Photographs by JULIE HANCOCK

Phoenix fly to Spain

Pencoed first tour to Spain!

A squad of 21 players, plus coaches and supporters, will fly out from Cardiff on April 10 for a week. They will play the La Vila rugby club at the Nuevo Estadia. Villajoyosa, home of the

Benidorm Sevens. Both clubs are at the same stage of developnent, with the long term objective of the La Vila Club to provide players

THESE are quite in April, 2010, Phoenix exciting times for have made rapid strides, RFC winning the national sen-Pencoed RFC when soon embark on their style, and currently doing well following entry to Division 1 West.

A presentation evening will be held at the clubhouse on May 21 to celebrate their development league success. and recognise individual contributions during the

Phoenix now look to build, and rugby development sessions are taking place every Wednesday at 5pm for under-15 girls. Eligible for the national several squad, which will represent Spain in the 2016 players must be over 12/under-15 on 2 comber 1, 2010; no Brazil Olympic Games! 12/under-15 on A most interesting experience awaits the Phoenix experience necessary, September 1, 2010; no qualified coaches in

Since playing their attendance.

IB first competitive match

The year 7 and 8 winning cross country team.

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS ROUND-UP

Pupils enjoy success in many sports!

THE senior boys tennis squad won the first round of the national Glavill cup competition against a strong Howells side and Cardiff Castle Club.

Captain Tom Kamal and Adam Wood got the school off to a good start with a 6-1 win in the doubles.
The Humphries broth-

ers, David and Jonathan, also won their doubles match by the same score.
Former Cowbridge

Former Cowbridge pupil Will Campbell was in the Howells side, but he could not cope with the power of Jonathan Humphries, who served

Kamal Captain dropped only one game in his singles match as Cowbridge cruised to a 5–1 win overall.

Adam Wood lost his singles match and blamed a lack of tennis practice on the fact that he has mostly been focusing on his rugby defence and spending many evenings in
London, cooking up a
variety of exotic dishes

Bassleg scored 76, and for city celebrities; well done Adam!

INDOOR and Josie were accurate and didn't give many CRICKET

AFTER coming second Cricket T o u r n a m e n t, Cowbridge were asked to play in the Welsh from Pembroke unable to attend.

were eight schools in the final at the SWALEC Cathedral Cardiff; School (Cardiff), Glan Afan (Port Talbot), Dyffryn Taf (Carmarthen) and Ysgol Dyffryn (Bethesda) making up (Deeside) and Cowbridge making up pool B.

The pool round was a round robin competition. faced Cowbridge

first, the bowling by Laurie Thomas, Emily Davies, Josie Palmer and Maddie Breed was accuand Hawardian found it hard.

Megan McNamee was also excellent as wicket keeper and Hawarden scored 46.

Cowbridge then batted, and with the first ball Josie Palmer was bowled

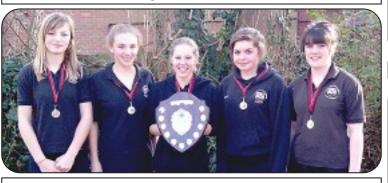
Megan McNamee and Laurie Thomas faced the rest of the overs until the 9th over, when Megan got caught out and Rosa Hartman came in.

At this point Cowbridge had scored 46. In the 10th and final over Hawardian bowled two wides to give Cowbridge the win!

In the second game, Cowbridge played Bassleg with Cowbridge



The girls indoor cricket team.



The years 9-11 winning cross country team.

again the four bowlers Laurie, Emily, Maddie wides.

Hetty Breed, Laurie in the Cardiff and Vale and Rosa Hartman also took wickets throughout

Cowbridge then batted to play in the Welsh and had to face some final due to a school very fast bowling from the Bassleg team. Unfortunately Bassleg

took all 8 wickets by the inal at the 10th over, where Stadium Cowbridge scored 42. Cathedral In the third game,

Cowbridge faced

Glyncoed.

Cowbridge had to win od Ysgol to progress to the semi final. Cowbridge fielded first and again there was excellent fielding by pool A and Bassleg was excellent fielding by (Newport), Glyncoed the whole team but in (Ebbw Vale), Hawarden particular Olivia Wood who took two catches from Laurie Thomas' deliveries.

Glyncoed scored 46. Cowbridge knew what they needed to achieve to Cowbridge faced the activation of the face Hartman and Laurie Thomas consistently hit-ting 15 against the net, their total soon added up, scoring 47 to win in the

> Cowbridge went on to win by 10 runs. Bassleg came first, and Cowbridge second, to go through to the semi

9th over.

Cathedral won the other pool with Dyffryn Taf School in second.

In the semi finals,

Bassleg met Dyffryn Taf and a surprise win by Dyffryn put them into the

Cowbridge faced

Cathedral.
Cowbridge batted first and scored 44 for 7 wickets with Emily Davies batting well.

the Cathedral scared team: however by the 6th Cathedral had passed Cowbridge's score to win the semi

In the final, Cathedral faced Dyffryn Taf School with Cathedral the win- of Howells. ners, and they will go on to represent Wales at in the national

Player of the match: Laurie Thomas

HOCKEY

THE year-9 hockey team played Porthcawl on the hottest day of the

year so far!
Izzy Eddy Williams once again gave 100 per throughout the match, and Clare Davies made some excellent tackles in defence.

Niamh Gallagher and Eliza Smith also played strongly, feeding the ball from defence to attack. In the first half Cowbridge dominated, however they could not find the back of the goals and on several occasions Porthcawl attacked then scored: at the end of the first half it was 2-0 to Porthcawl.

In the second half Bryony Roberts scored a well deserved goal for invitation race
Cowbridge, however THIS annual ever

ing the final score 3–1.
Player of the match:
Niamh Gallagher.

$\mathbf{R} \ \mathbf{O} \ \mathbf{S}$ **COUNTRY**

COWBRIDGE cross country team competed in the annual sand dune cross country race at St

Cathedral then went 2.5 miles over pebbles, into bat, and Emily sand dunes and road. In Davies and Laurie the year-7 and 8 girls Thomas took two quick race, Welsh national wickets each, which schools chamption Seren Allin (year-7) came first by over two minutes. with Ela Emyr (year-8) in second, Nadine James (year-8) fourth and Alice Tudor (year-8) sixth, making up the scoring team to come first, ahead

Other results were Rebecca Thomas (year-8) seventh, Brooke Langton-Cryer (year-8) tenth, Niamh Jenkins (year-7) 19th, Cerys Bradshaw (year-7) 21st and Alicia Thomas (year-7) 24th.

In the under-16 race. Fiona Bray (year-11), who came 12th at the Welsh Nationals, came first place, winning by over one minute; Miriam Bennett (year-10) came third, Megan Langton-Cryer (year-9) seventh, and Ffion Hopkin (year-9) came 12th, to make up the team who came first with Monmouth girls in second place.

Sophie Thomas (year-9) also came 14th.

After the race, the athletes were treated to tea and cakes, and both teams came home with their big win shields; well done! their winner's

St John's Portheawl

THIS annual event was Porthcawl quickly held in spring-like replied by scoring, mak-weather on the dunes

course at Porthcawl.

The under-13 boys finished second overall by one point from Monmouth Public School; second, Rian Thomas, team score 19 points; fourth, Ellis points; fourth, Ellis Rosser, Monmouth, 18; sixth, Dewi Bennett; sev-This is an invitation Huw Bennett; 12th, Scan-race where Monmouth Davies; 13th, Luke
Rrynteg, Howells, Jeffries; 20th, Kristian

Monmouth Public School; Fifth, Tom Owen; Morgan: eighth. Jason Miles Chris Sami; 17th. Jenkins: Powell: 19th. Liam

BASKETBALL

COWBRIDGE year-8 and year-9 played in the Cardiff and Vale Basketball finals at the Welsh Institute of Sport in Sophia Gardens on Tuesday, March 22.

Both games were tough, but they came

through and won both.

Year 8: This was a tough game against an unbeaten Cardiff High team who train at UWIC David Humphreys.

and play national league.

Squad: Tom Trotman,

also unbeaten, were up for the game.

pressure, having won all Barry Boys, a side they their Vale games at a canhad beaten comfortably ter.

to catch up and build a lead.

and kept the pressure on. and attack, scoring an amazing 18 points out of

fairly easy winners 40–29.

Ben Jones, Adam Jones, Rosser, Ellis Amos David Booth,

man of the match award, but was ably supported by Joe Davies, Ben

Cardiff never gave up game. Tom Trotman was hurt and Cowbridge were mercurial in both defence slow off the mark and

amazing to point.

40 points scored. They narrowiy too use in first quarter and were in first quarter and were in foul trouble.

Tom easily won the

in the league.

Whether it was complacency or a improvement by Barry, this was not an easy

> Barry were obviously expected their shots to go

They were also facing their first defeat in two years

A change in defensive structure, a stern talking to and an increase in confidence.however.

brought Cowbridge back into the game. The third quarter proved decisive.

Barry, too, were now

THE GEM - 27

Barry, who limited him to four points only, but at

The year-8 basketball team.

a cost! To do it he picked up huge four fouls and had to be Barry, taken off and kept in reserve for the last quar-

This proved decisive, with Cowbrige scoring eight points without

reply.

The last quarter was played out with both teams running the bench and Cowbridge ran out

winners 36–21.
Top scorer was Matty

Roberts with 12 points.

They now look forward to the South Wales championships at Rhondda Fach Leisure Centre on Wednesday, April 13.

Squad: Harry Stubbington, George Griffiths, Alex Greaves, hs, Alex Gaughan, Man Declain

This was the first time they had experienced The Cowbride 'double' over Porthcawl

COWBRIDGE earned a by second row James Waters, sup- reflect the effort and spirit of the lights for the second time this season.

Both teams scored three tries apiece but the visitors were able to convert all three tries to the home side's none.

In the first half, tries by Dan Bunney (2) and Cai Evans, who was also successful with the conversions, provided a platform from which Cowbridge were able

to dominate.

Good support play from forwards Duncan Ace, Matthew Keating and Tomos Evans-Williams kept Cowbridge on the front foot for most of the half, with scrum half Osian John tidy-Cowbridge and St John's Jones. schools compete. The under-16 boys The course is roughly team also finished sections. The course is roughly team also finished sections.

hard fought 21–15 win over
Porthcawl under flood
Resulted in a ruck within two against Pontypridd.

Resulted in a ruck within two against Pontypridd. metres of the line, but excellent defence from the Porthcawl forwards prevented the visitors from scoring a fourth try.

In the second half, Porthcawl lifted their game to score three tries of their own, and only sound tackling by James Holder, Harry and only desperate defeating and only desperate defeating the second tries. Hopkins and Seán Davies kept their opponents at bay.

Despite constant pressure from the home side, Cowbridge held out for a narrow win.

Cowbridge backs Michael Thomas and Toff Patel both stood out, while props Tom Edwards and Ben Terry competed well in the scrums against heavier opponents.

Cowbridge exit the Blues Cup in semi-final defeat THE scoreline of 32-7 does not

Playing against a massive pack, the Cowbridge forwards are to be commended for their brave per-formance, particularly in the first half, when they dominated both

Matthew Keating and Duncan Ace were outstanding in the loose and only desperate defence by the visitors prevented Cowbridge crossing their line.

Two break away tries at the end of the half gave Pontypridd a 12 point lead, and a quick third try at the start of the second half virtually killed off the tie.

Three further tries were added efore Cowbridge scored a consolation try by Dan Bunney, which as converted by outside half Cai

BRYN HAFREN YOUNG SPORTS STARS ARE RECOGNISED FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

THE 2011 sports teams were recognised for their international and county honours at Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School recently.

School recently.

The headteacher, Mr Phil Whitcombe, praised the pupils and the sports department for its on-going dedication – not forgetting the invaluable support of parents too!



Photographs by IAN DIXON



























Errors condemn team to defeat

Barrians slump against Sully

tained Sully on a fine spring afternoon for only their third home game of the season.

The Sully forwards were dominant from the off, and despite playing against the elements in the first half, they had the advantage in territory and possession.

ry and possession.

Barry winger Ashley
Adams, who was curiously playing for the
away side, scored early
on to give Sully the lead.

This was further increased after Sully exploited a huge overlap on their left to give them a 12-point advantage.

The home side did have chances in their

BARRIANS SULLY

26

opposition's twenty-two but lacked the ruthless cutting edge to finish off with points on the board.

This was perfectly demonstrated when scrum-half Jim Thorne, clean through, chose to ran towards the posts and was tackled instead just grounding the

The Barrian cause was not helped by their mediocre play in the breakdown area, with balls frequently lost in contact, although Nick Rolfe was having a fine game at the base of the scrum.

Shane Parker did bun-

dle over towards the end of the first half to reduce the deficit, but more handling errors after the break were capitalised by the away side, con-demning the Barrians to

demning use L...
a home defeat.

**Trann: Williams
**Trann: Williams Chow (c), Davies, Parker, Jenkins, Thorne, Bailey; Houldey, Bergeron, Lundy; Moffat, Tobin; Rendall, Jones, Rolfe. Subs. Case, Hosking, Dop, J Thomas, M Thomas, Palmer, O'Riordan.

Man-of-the-match

THE Vale of Glamorgan Schools under-11s lost to Bridgend in the late stages of a well-fought match at the Old Penarthians ground on a sunny and windy Saturday morning.

The teams had met each other earlier in the season and Bridgend had come away narrow winners then by 12-10, so a close game was on the cards.
The first half was

evenly matched, with Bridgend using their useful outside-half to good effect, dummying well and feeding his pacy backline, being marshalled by fierce tackling by Sam Corkhill, Fin Davies

and Cameron Roy. The Vale backs were not be outdone and hit back with determined running from Harrison Ashby and Rhodri Hopkins on the flanks, and great counter attacking from Joseff Williams, and centres Bevan Howell and Rhydian Williams, while the half-backs of Ioan Williams and Rhys Bradshaw kept the Bridgend back row and their opposite numbers guessing.

Some great tackling by both Jack Roberts and Bevan Howell

the Vale and when they decided to use their effective forwards from a tap penalty, the Vale kept the ball well through four ruck phases but unfortunately knocked on, losing possession. From the resulting

scrum the Bridgend backs ran hard only for a wayward pass to be plucked from the air by Ashby, who ran 50 metres to score under the posts. Howell converted to make the score 7-0 at half-time.

Bridgend soon hit back in the second half and when the Vale tried to clear their lines, the Bridgend back three ran back well and their impressive flanker Lewis beat two tacklers to score. The conversion was missed, keeping the Vale ahead by two

Bridgend soon found themselves camped in the Vale 22 and from a scrum, they kept the ball in contact, scored near the posts; and converted for a 12-7 lead.

Chasing the game with only one minute remaining, the Vale restarted only to find Bridgend had other ideas about who should score next and a strong run by their flanker saw him score in the corner to make the final score 7-19 to Bridgend.

In the clubhouse afterwards, captains gave their speeches of

Vale under-11s

are just pipped

in quarter-final

LEFT: Rhydian Williams moves the ball out wide..

Captain Durlucia backed up by his pack.

thanks to fellow players,

ers and referee. Vale squad: Jake Griffiths, Max Lucas, Finlay Davies, Max Cunnington, Cameron Roy, Sam Corkhill, Jack Roberts, Rhys Durlucia (captain), Ioan Williams, Rhys Bradshaw, Bevan Howell Rhydian Williams, Rhodri Hopkins Harrison Ashby, Joseff Williams, Dan Holden, Rhys Jones, Ioan Lewis, Ben

COWBRIDGE A

Bar 44 rounded off

their season with a

highly commend-able 3–2 win at

Rhiwbina to estab-

lish themselves as a

force to be reck-

oned with at the

Division One B

Bar 44 failed in their

task to retain South

Glamorgan Division
One status by going
down 1–4 to league

winners Barry Leisure

Meanwhile, B team

Wales

South

level.

Players picked to tour South Africa

TOM MERILAHT them, they scored more and Mike Lloyd of than 1,200 runs and took and Mike Lloyd of Cowbridge have been selected by the South Wales lar brand of leg spin. Cricket Association
to take part in its
tour to South Africa
in Echanya 2012 in February 2013.

places other than Cowbridge. Between

Cowbridge B team

are 'squashed' to

such an outstanding way. Obviously last sea- It is hoped that they can son's form was noticed in perform even better next

CADOXTON TAE KWON DO AT WELSH MASTERS

13, the Cadoxton time. Schools of Tae Kwon Do attended hard to come away with third place in the point the first of a series sparring, while Matthew of six Welsh Bennett took the silver Masters Grand Prix and second in the contin-

tournaments.
Thomas Haysham and Lucy Newman got us off to a good start by taking second and third places in the pattern section. Once the patterns were over, the point and continuous sparring categories got under way.

were young second in point and third in Williams, in continuous sparring.

Jones and Demi Having some hard Cameron went on fights, Morganne Gomez time Cameron Dafydd Jones and Demi Baker. Cameron went on to take first in continuous Jones eventually came sparring and second in away with second place the point sparring, while in both the point and con-Dafydd took second in tinuous the continuous.

Demi Baker gave a sparring sections, telephone 01446 good account of herself, Charlotte Sullivan took or 07811 934079. just losing out on a medal first place and the gold.

ON Sunday, March by one point during extra

uous sparring.

Lucy Newman took second place, with Hayley Mattey taking third in the point sparring sections.

Continually improv-

ing, Cian Allen came first tions in point and third in con-with ries got under way.

Competing for the first

Competing for the first

Competing for the first

Competing the first Shannon Haysham took

sparring.

In their separate age me. groups, Ollie Tipples and Liam Rees worked Thomas Haysham took the gold in both the point and continuous sparring, while Bradley Halford took gold in the point and silver in the continuous sparring.

Eighteen-year-old Jamie Halford competed in both the youth (17-21 years of age) and the men's point sparring secand came away with first place in both categories

The club are now in serious training for the world games which are being held in Cardiff in August and are actively seeking sponsors for this event.

For further informa-Competing in the point tion and training times, sparring sections, telephone 01446 406372

RON THOMAS

The Rhoose under-12s tame Park Lions

RHOOSE used the wind to their advantage in the first half with Cameron Leach and Daniel Cope both having good efforts on goal.

Rhoose took the lead when Jay Munn played in Josh Morgan, who rounded two defenders

before finding the net. In the second half, Park Lions pressurised the Rhoose goal and goalkeeper Michael Wilson was called into action on several occasions.

Central defenders Matt Cottington and Ryan Hughes made some strong challenges and timely interceptions. Park Lions equalised

with a well worked move. Both sides went for the win with Rhoose defenders Patrick O'Carroll and Edward Thomas having to work hard. Lee Bartlett was unlucky to have a well struck effort blocked on

www.facebook

.com/gemnews

A team skipper Nick Guard reminded his With minutes remaining, Jordan Holt played men that a single point from their week 10 fixa through ball into the ture at Rhiwbina would path of Mitch McCabe, mean safety, but also that a big points margin who hit an unstoppable left foot drive into the win against the second-placed club could mean roof of the net which proved to be the winner promotion!

No 5 Niall Sloan We are now started strongly against his teenage opponent ,going into a 2–0 lead only to lose his way and on Twitter follow us @gem_news end up second-best in a Find us on five-setter. Simon Payne lev-Facebook just visit:

elled the match with a solid 3–1 at No 4, finishing strongly to take the fourth set 9–1.

Garfield Leask man-

the lower leagues aged to level his match at 1–1 but could not quite find that extra gear to close out on the highly competitive Rhiwbina No 3 Chris Powell, losing out 7–9, 4–9 in the third and fourth games

The fighting qualities of this team were exemplified by Nos 1 and 2, Nick Guard and Jon Bisson. Both returning 3–1 wins, Guard dropped the third game while Bisson came back from losing a poor first match.

The result was 16–10, giving rise to a league position just seven points adrift of their league runners-up opponents.

Recent results and a controversial walkover awarded to Rhiwbina had given rise to Cowbridge B requiring 14 points from their final match against league leaders Barry Leisure A to avoid relegation – a tall order indeed, especially with regular No 2 Chris Ranger missing from

the line-up.
Brave performances by Paul Reynish (No 1) and Richie Ford (No 2) saw the former taking the first set in his match before ending up second best, while Ford won two 10–9 tie breaks, and was 6–1 up in the fifth before going down 7-9.

Cowbridge B man of the match was Colin Baxter, who blew away his No 4 opponent to win 9–6, 9–0, 9–1.

Unfortunately, Julian Jenkins (No 3) and Russ Watts (No 5) could not match this performance and were outplayed in their 0–3 results.

The match score was 7–16; not enough to reach safety and so the team take the drop to South Glamorgan Division Two, hoping to bounce back in the

autumn session.

The Cowbridge C Shampan match versus Cardiff University B had to be postponed owing to Varsity day for the students.

Meanwhile, the coming weeks see Cowbridge squash activities take on a more domestic slant with the onset of the club singles and doubles tournaments.

All squash details from club chairman Clive Prigg (01446 773729) or club skipper russ.watts@btopenworld.com.

Tennis star Alex serves for success!

BARRY'S junior tennis player Alex Hamer was put through his paces after taking part in the Lawn Tennis Association's (LTA) national talent ID finals at the National Tennis Centre. Roehampton.

The nine-year-old was one of 100 youngsters from across the south invited to the session at the National Tennis Centre after successfully progressing through county and regional talent ID days to make the final week.

Alex showed off his skills in front of the LTA Talent ID team who were aiming to spot future performance players, who, even at such an early age, were displaying the right attributes that could enable them to make a real impact on the game.

The Romilly Primary School pupil id: "I really liked all the activities and the atmosphere at the regional ID days so was excited about today. The sprinting is my favourite part and it's been great to play against other players from across the country.'

The day was overseen by LTA head talent management, Andrew



ABOVE: Alex Hamer.

Lewandowski, who was impressed by what he saw: "Alex has performed really well and shown lots of ability across a number of different tasks test ing qualities including athletic ability. coordination, speed and agility and has shown a real natural talent and love for the sport.

Trophies are presented at swimming club's evening

BARRY Amateur Swimming Club held its 85th AGM and presentation evening recently at Market Street Sports and Social Club.

Mrs Heulwen Cooper, club chairperson, opened the meeting by welcoming life members of the club, Mr Ray Owens and his wife Sheila, Mr Glynn Davies, Mr Geoff Doonan, Mrs Stephanie Cody, Mrs Jen Wilcox, Mrs Cherrie Temple and Mrs Trudi Phillips.

Heulwen talked about the success of the club during the year and the sad loss of some swimmers who have emigrated or gone on to swim at a higher level with other clubs.

Changes to the constitution were discussed and voted in, as were members of the committee

tee. Sadly, Louise Hamer, who had been club sectary for a short time, stood down due to other commitments, but Cheryl Hopkins volunteered to take on this role.

The club is in desperate need for more helpers to help run the club, as everyone who helps with the club is a volunteer.

Heulwen thanked the coaches of the club for all their hard work and dedication to the club as a few of them don't even have children swimming with the club anymore.

These included Mr
Paul Buckle, who has
taken parts of the role of
chief coach; Mike
Looker, who takes the
older swimmers, as well
as Barrie Crompton,
Peter Lewis, Mark
Currie, Simon Insole,
Kay Rogers, Gemma
Ewington, Martin
Harris; also some of the
older swimmers who
have been helping poolside, Jonathan Haggett
and Lindsay Kerslake
without these the club
would not be able to run.

Club captains for 2011–2012 were announced after voting took place in February. The swimmers voted



The 9-10 year old trophy and medal winners, (Back Row) James Hamer, Luke Birnage, Grace Insloe and Justina Simpson, (Front Row) Sam Smith, Shaun Bowden, Mollie Hopkins and Bethan Williams



PICTURED: (Back Row) Teresa Wheeler, Paul Buckle, Jonathan Bowden, Justina Simpson and Ffion Goodland. (Front Row) Grace Insole, Bethan Williams, Ellie Ingram and Ashlev Gulwell.

that Rhys Perry and Lindsay Kerslake should be captains, and Kieran Knowles and Georgia Looker vice captains; well done to all of you, as this is such a big hon-

our.

This year, our trophies were presented to the swimmers by Justina Simpson, who organised 'Lengths for Life', the sponsored swim our club took part in at the same time as the postal swim recently.

recently.
Mark Currie and Ellie

Ingram presented Justina with a cheque for 'Lengths for Life' for a grand total of £1,040, of which coach Mark Currie raised just over

Jacob Davies presented her with some flowers as a thank you for

attending the event.

The main event of the night was to present the trophies and medals that were won at the club championships held last November.

The swimmers were

excited to receive their trophies and medals as they had something to show for their hard work

and training.

Also during the evening, the special trophies were presented.

After coming second in all his events, Ashley Gulwell finally received a trophy for 'best runner up' with a total of 25 points, which is the maximum, to a very

loud cheer.
Ellie Ingram and
Bethan Williams shared
the girls' with 25 points,
while Ellie Ingram and
Connor Grant won the
'best girl and boy newcomer' trophy for their
determination and their
enormous improvement
in a relatively short time
with the club.

The 'best novice trophies' went to joint girls winners Grace Insole and Amy McAndrew, and Declan Ewington (boys) for their improvement during their time with the club.

Ffion Goodland and Jonathan Bowden received 'most improved swimmer' for their competitive ability and performance which has improved significantly during the past year.

The next few trophies were presented to the helpers of the club for their hard work and dedication.

The loyalty cup went to Paul Buckle for all his work poolside with the younger swimmers.

Teresa Wheeler won the ladies' Kings Lynn cup for all the hard work she puts into the club. Lady club member of

Lady club member of the year went to Gemma Ewington for her hard work poolside, while men's club member of the year went to Mark Currie, who turns out each week to coach.

Barry Amateur
Swimming Club is
always looking for new
members to join the club
so if you would like a
trial, please phone Mrs
Heulwen Cooper on
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Competition is so close...



Barrie Melhuish, Tony McCarthy, Kevin Latham, Bryan Wadham and Gwyn Thomas.

FARMER GWYN IS SO UNLUCKY AS BRYAN PIPS HIM

MEMBERS of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society gathered last Thursday for their monthly meeting at the Glamorganshire Golf Club in Penarth, kindly sponsored by Hire One Ltd.

This famous club which, in October 1890, became the first to introduce golf to southeast Wales, has since produced three Welsh amateur champions and is steeped in history.

Readers may like to know it was at the Glamorganshire on September 30, 1898, that the late Dr Frank Barney Gorton Stableford first introduced the stableford method of scoring when he tried it out on fellow members. This system is now utilised and revered by amateur golfers the world over.

world over.

It is also probable that no other golf club in the world can lay claim to have hosted so many great rugby players, as the famous Barbarians rugby football club were regular visitors to this hospitable club every Easter from 1901 to 1966.

It is also recorded that it was the inspiration and expertise of their members that helped create several other courses in south Wales, notably Radyr and Southerndown.

At one stage last Thursday, it looked as if another piece of history was about to be made.

News filtered back to the clubhouse that Vale farmer Gwyn Thomas was about to secure his first-ever major trophy. Needing just a par on the intimidating closing hole, popular member Gwyn would surely have achieved this objective but for a wayward tee shot on the final hole.

Unfortunately for Gwyn, conscious of the proximity of the clubhouse on the left of the green, his tee shot became entangled with the branches of some of the 40 foot high trees to the right of the green.

A double bogey on this hole to finish with 32 stableford points proved costly, taking Gwyn from first to third place, just one point behind runner-up Tony McCarthy and two points behind overall winner Bryan Wadham, who finished with 34 points. This was Bryan's first individual success since 2003 when he was successful on three occasions. Mike Lee finished fourth.

Despair for John and Martin

A bad day at the office for John Davies and Martin David was rewarded by the steward of the host club, Brian Williams, who, in addition to offering a free counselling service, also provided both with best endeavour prizes.

endeavour prizes.
Nearest the pin on the par three holes were Keith Walker, Bryan Wadham, Bryan Owen, Dai John, Clive Thomas and Tosh Taylor, who was also successful by winning the 'James Hog

Roasts' sponsored longest drive competi-

Barrie Melhuish, with just 27 points, won the guest section, two more than Rev David Smith who was runner-up.

who was runner-up.
Sponsors' representative Kevin Latham
returned home with the
'Premier Turf' sponsored bottle of whisky
when correctly guessing
15 balls would fail to
make the journey home,
which raised £100 for
the Samaritans Purse
captain's charity.

captain's charity.

Society president
Geraint Davies presided
over the evening's official presentation ceremony standing in for
Neil McLean and David
Harris, both enjoying a
well earned rest following their sterling efforts
the previous month.

The society's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 28 at Cradoc Golf Club near Brecon, when members will be competing for their own version of the Walker Cup, proudly sponsored by Cowbridge solicitors Gaskell & Walker.

TMcC

B Attack show 'Howe' to win

B ATTACK knew just 'Howe' to move towards mid-table in an extremely congested Bridgend Sunday six-a-side league last week – Greg Howe proving the difference as they squeaked a potentially vital 3–2 victory over Croissants.

There was a quite astonishing game in division one. Few had been expecting fireworks as mid-table rivals Hardly Athletic and Minter Phoenix clashed, certainly Phoenix couldn't have been expecting an 8–1 loss as Jay Williams got among the goals

among the goals.

LFFC are moving in the right direction in the Bridgend six-a-side league, and won what might be a crucial base-

ment battle with Hangover Heroes 4–2. Jerremy Griffiths starred in that one, while Gavin Davies did likewise as Beer Attack beat FC Ogmore by the only goal

FC Falcons are not giving up the Cardiff sixa-side league title without a fight, and are second only on goal difference after beating CC Allstars 11–3 as Luke Bowen starred.

They now need to beat Riverside on the last day and hope that leaders Tudor Motors slip up — although they are showing little signs of that and crushed Penarth Panthers 6–0 to remain at the summit.

Anyone who wants to join the six-a-side football leagues in South Wales can ring 0845 230 2340 or visit www.leisureleagues.net.



ABOVE: Mark Currie, Ellie Ingram, and Jacob Davies presenting the cheque for 'Lengths for Life' to Justina Simpson.

Atlantic College 10K race draws young and old – and those raising funds for charity!

THE Atlantic College 10K run took place on March 20 in ideal condi-

As you can see from the images there were people young and old, those from around the globe, and some individuals taking the opportunity to raise money for deserving causes like Help for Heroes. (Please see below for the results).

PHOTOGRAPHS BY GLYN EVANS































Atlantic College 10k running results

THE results of the Atlantic College 10k race on March 20 were:

Pos	Time	Pos All	Name	Race No	Club	Pos
		ge (female):	C ''' IZ 1	222	100.1	1.40
1	49.08	232	Cecilia Karlsson	232	AC Student	148
2	50.31	175	Anette Plassen	181	AC Student	175
3	53.12	215	Natscha Vogel	269	AC Student	215
	itic Colleg					
1	39.33	39	So Nakayama	179	AC Student	39
2	40.18	45	Pjotr Sauer	217	AC Student	45
3	43.58	80	Mais Gabriel Johansen	428	Atlantic College	80
Atlar	ntic Colleg	e Staff			e	
1	41.36	52	Paul Belcher	49	AC Staff	52
2	42.44	62	Kyle Jennermann	274	Atlantic College	62
3	43.41	75	Ruth Pickvance	279	Atlantic College	75
	ale Vet 35-		rum i iekvance	217	Attantic Conege	15
1	39.39	41	Sharon Leech	60	Carmarthen Harriers	41
2	43.45	77	Sally Wilson	316	Ingli	77
3	44.30	87	Charlotte Johns	360	Brackla Harriers	87
-			Charlotte Johns	300	Blackia Hailleis	0/
	ale Vet 45-		M.L Pill.	0.2	Cl. C. I. D.	42
1	39.41	43	Melanie Ellis	92	Shaftesbury Barnet	43
2	42.33	59	Kim Wehden	426	Islwyn	59
_ 3	45.15	93	Debbie Cooke	165	Bridgend AC	93
	ale Vet 55-					
1	43.49	78	Dawn Kenwright	314	Sarn Helen	78
2	50.22	172	Gwynetth Parry	396	Unattached	172
3	50.45	178	Yvonne Williams	110	Penarth and Dinas	178
Ladie	es under-3	35				
1	36.09	16	Anne-Marie Hutchinson	299	Neath	16
2	37.23	18	Natasha Cockram	371	Cwmbran	18
3	37.33	21	Kate Roberts	386	Bridgend AC	21
Male	Vet 40-49)				
1	33.12	4	Austin Davies	104	Brecon Athletics Club	4
2	33.38	5	Julian Baker	340	Les Croupiers	5
3	33.52	6	Phil Cook	439	Les Croupiers	6
	Vet 50-59		Tilli Cook	737	Les Croupiers	U
1	35.59	14	Scott Howell	155	Les Croupiers	14
2	36.06	15	Alan Davies	352	Unattached	15
3						
	37.32	20	Mick McGeogh	130	Les Croupiers	20
	Vet 60+	20	D' 1 136 1	422	0 11 1	20
1	38.40	30	Richard Marks	433	Sarn Helen	30
2	39.08	35	Sandy Johnston	442	Les Croupiers	35
3	44.05	81	Gary Gunner	48	Croft Ambery	81
	under-39					
1	31.23	1	Rowan Axe	139	Cardiff AAC	1
2	31.28	2	Afan Humphries	292	Swansea	2
3	31.37	3	Richard Garder	424	Unattached	3

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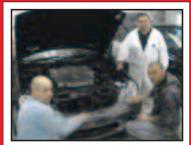
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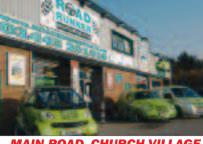
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Birthdays

Norman Wilkinson



To Someone Special Happy 70th **Birthday**

5th April, 2011 Love from Helen. Ryan, Adam and Emily

Happy 18th Birthday 9th April, 2011 Jonathan Weblev

HAVE A GREAT DAY! All our love, Mum, Dad, Carys, Nan & Grandad. XXX

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL WALF-HELAMOREAN (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) SECTION 27 OF THE POLICING BEDG HIGHEAMHWC

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG DEDDE LLYWODRAETH LEOL (DARPARIAETHAU AMRYWIOL) 1982 FEL Y'I DIWYGIWYD GAN ADRAN 27 O DDEDDF PLISMONA A THROSEDD 2009

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT on 28th February 2011 Vale of Glamorgan Council ("the Council") passed a resolution that the provisions of Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 ('The Act') as amended by Section 27 of The Policing and Crime Act 2009 shall apply to the Vale of Glamorgan Council with effect from 1" June 2011

Any person wishing to operate a sex establishment as defined by Schedule 3 requires a sex establishment. licence, unless the requirement for a licence has been waived by the Council.

Sex establishments are sexual entertainment venues. sex cinemas or sex shops.

A sexual entertainment venue means any premises at which relevent entertainment is provided before a live audience for the financial gain of the organiser or the ntertainer. Relevant entertainment may include lap dancing. strip shows and table dancing or other similar forms of entertainment as decided on a case by case basis

Adoption will also ensure applications for sex establishments are considered and activities are appropriately controlled under the Vale of Glamorgan ouncil's Licensing regime

Further information is available at www.valeofplamorgan.gov.uk or by contacting the Licensing Section on 01446 709105 or email Licensing@valeofglemorgan.gov.uk

HYSBYSIR TRWY HYN fod Cyngor Bwrdeistref Bro Morgannwg ('y Cyngor') ar 28 Chwefror 2011 wedi penderfynu mebwysiadu. Atoden 3 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol (Derperisethau Amrywiol) 1982 ("y Ddeddf"), fel yi dwygiwyd gan Adran 27 o Ddeddi Plis 2009. Daw i rym ar 1 Mehefin 2011.

The effect of this resolution is that the Valle of Chamorgan. Mae hyn yn gelygu y bydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg yn Council will be able to regulate sex establishments, gollu rheoli sefydliadau rhyw. Bydd rhaid i unrhyw un sydd am redeg sefydliad rhyw fel y'i diffinnir yn Atodien 3, gael trwydded, oni bai bod y Cyngor wedi hepgor yr angen am hynns

Local people will have a greater say over the regulation. Bydd gan bobl leol flwy o lois o ran rheoleiddio sefydliadau

Ystyr sefydliadau rhyw yw fleoliadau adioniant rhyw sinemās rhyw neu siopau rhyw.

Mae feoliad adloniant fliyw yn golygu unrhyw le sy'n cynnig adiomient perthnasol perbren cynulleidfa fyw er budd ariannol y trefnydd neu'r sawl sy'n diddanu. Gall adoniant porthrasol gynnwys dawnsio glin, siceau stripio a dawnsio bwrdd neu fathau tebug eraill o adioniant a benderlynir fesul achos.

Bydd mabwysiadu'r darpariaethau fyn hefyd yn golygu bod ceisiadau ar gyfer sefydliadau rhyw yn ci hystyried, a bod gweithgareddau'n cael eu theoli'n briodol dan diefniadau trwyddedu Cyngor Bro Morgannwg

Mae rhagor o wybodaeth ar gael yn www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk neu trwy ffonio'r Is-adran Drwyddedu ar 01446 709105 neu e-bostio Licensing@valeofglamo

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1982

Designation of Consent Streets in the Vale of Glamorgan

Act that the Valle of Glamorgan Council has passed Consent Streets, for the purposes of street trading as defined by that Act, including all forecourts, roads, footways, or other areas adjacent to all streets in the resolution for a distance of 15 metres. There will be no

The resolution will have effect from 1" June 2011

The effect of the designation is to prohibit any person from trading in any street unless they have obtained a Street Trading Consent authorising such activity from the Council.

Any person convicted of trading on a street without a Street Trading Consent will be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of up to £1,000.

Dated 7th April 2011

DEDDF LLYWODRAETH LLEGL (DARPARIAETHAU AMRYWIOL) Dynodiad Strydoedd Caniatad yn Bro Morgannwg

VALE-FOLAMORICAN

BEO MORGANINO

NOTICE is hereby given under Schedule 4 to the above. HYSBYSIR dray lryn dan atodien 4 i ddeddf uchod bod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wedi pasio penderfyniad a resolution to designate all streets in their district as i ddynodi holl strydoedd yn ei rhanbarth yn strydoedd caniatăd, at ddiberrion masnachu ar y stryd fel y'u diffinnir gan y Ddeddf honno, gan gynnwys pob cyrsau blaen. ffyrdd, llwybrau troed, neu ardaloedd eraill cyfagos. holl strydoedd yn y penderfyniad am beliter o 15 metr Ni fydd unrhyw strydoedd trwydded.

Bydd y penderfyniad yn effeithiol o 14 o Fehefin 2011.

Effaith y dynodiad yw gwehardd unrhyw un rhag masnachu mewn unrhyw stryd oni bai eu bod wedi ennill Genistäd Mesnachu ar y Stryd sydd yn awdurdodi gweithgarwch o'r fath oddi wrth y Cyngor.

Bydd unrhyw berson sy'n euog o fisanachu ar stryd heb geniatild masnechu ar y stryd yn euog o drengwydd ac yn agored i golffarn i ddirwy o hyd at £1,000.

Dyddiedig 7 Ebrill 2011

Family Notices

DAVIES Phyllis (Phyl)

The family would like to thank everyone for their support, kindness and prayers and also for the many

Thomas Brothers Funeral Directors of Cowbridge for their help with the arrangements.

BARLEY Lucy

Formerly of Leigh-on-Sea, Essex and latterly Lantwit Major, South Wales. Died peacefully at The Rise Care Home, Dawlish, Devon on 29 March 2011 with her family at her side.

Beloved wife of the late Basil and mother of Carol and Mette, grandmother of Kirsty and

Will remain forever in our memory as a very gentle, caring lady.

The Funeral Service will be held in St Paul's Chapel, Exeter & Devon Crematorium on Thursday 7th April at 11.15am.

Family Flowers only, but any donations for Lucy's favourite charity, the RSPB, would be gratefully received c/o B G Wills & Son Funeral Service 23 Brunswick Place, Dawlish.

Week.

cards and messages of condolence.

They would also like to thank everyone who attended and were involved with the services at Llanblethian Church and Coychurch Crematorium, including

Hannah and mother-in-law of David Cotgrove and Dave Cartwright.

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ONE of the most popular venues in the Welsh point-to-point calendar is Ystradowen, near Cowbridge.

Not only was the recent event popular with local horses and riders, there were also one or two 'invaders' from across the border – making for a great day's competition.





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TEAM TAKE TITLES AT SPORTSHALL EVENT

PUPILS representing Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools have enjoyed a number of notable successes at the Welsh **Sportshall Finals** since the event was re-organised in 2005.

The format has returned to eight competing teams, with each team based on the school districts used for Welsh Schools' track and field and crosscountry competitions

As long ago as 2006, Oliver Trotman (Cowbridge), now in year-13 but then in year 8, was invited to the UK finals as a wild card in the under-13 standing long jump.
For the following two

years, the district's under-15 boys teams, which included Cowbridge pupils, won their section at the Welsh Sportshall and qualified directly to the UK finals, and, in 2010, another Vale year-8, George Griffiths, became the second Cowbridge pupil to receive a wildcard invitation to the UK Sportshall finals, where he set a new benchmark by winning the under-13 boys event with a new Welsh record of 2.69 metres.

Even given that record, no-one could quite believe the results of the Cardiff and the Vale boys team at this year's Áviva Welsh Sports Hall at Cwmbran early March. The team, selected

after competitions held at Whitchurch High in January and February, was organised by Miss Sarah Moore and Mr Joe Sage of Willows, while Mr Glan Williams, a huge enthusiast for sportshall for many years, was the team manager.

In the under-15 boys competition, for years 9 and 10, there was possibly slight disappoint-ment for year-9 George Griffiths (Cowbridge) in a team drawn largely from Cardiff High

Although he will be pleased by his 8.18 metres leap to take top spot in the standing long jump - a performance which is short of Paul Samaden's Cardiff and the Vale best of 8.48m and he will be relieved at his 'normal style' shot performance of 11.52 metres following a difficult standing throw competition, the 24.3 seconds clocking in the two laps event – a per-formance which ranked only sixth equal on the

day – will grate a little. In terms of points, 39 in the two laps, 42 for the shot and 50 in the standing triple jump gave an overall score of 131, which was good enough for third place behind two north Walian year-10 pupils – Connor Laverty (North West) and Luke Ward (North

With the Cardiff and the Vale squad winning the 4 x 2 laps relay and finishing second in the two-boy eight-lap paar-lauf, plus placing three athletes in the top seven in the individual competition, with a fourth scorer at 15th, the first surprise of the day was a team win with 638 points, 18 points ahead of second-placed Powys.

That first team success was followed by an unprecedented second. The under-13 boys

team included one winner from 2010 – Tom Trotman (Cowbridge), one of Oliver's younger brothers, who had won the four laps event.

This year, he contested the two laps and high jump events and won both with encouraging performances, to claim 64 points

Backing that up were top three performances from Kristian Jones (four laps), Rian Thomas (six laps and standing long jump), and Ellis Rosser (six laps), plus victories for the 4 x 2 laps and eight laps two-boy paarlauf, and bronze medal runs from the obstacle and 4 x 1 laps relay squads the outcome was a first ever team win, with a huge total of 740 again seeing off the challenge

from Powys.
In the girls' events, the top performance was set by Radyr's Claire Taylor. The year-9 pupil hit new heights in winning the under-15 all rounder title – the first time that a Cardiff and the Vale girl has won this title. Helping that team to second place behind Dyfed were three Cowbridge girls - Izzy Eddy-Williams, Caitlin Allin and Sarah Lewis.

At under-13, the top Vale performance was set by Maya Bell (Cowbridge) with her 2.15 metres leap in the standing long jump, which gained second place and the event sil-

ver medal. So the curtain came down on the Aviva Welsh Sportshall finals with Cardiff and the Vale taking two boys' team titles and the under-15 girls' allrounder win, but now a chapter opens. Mr Glan Williams organised teams of 12 under-13 boys and seven under-15 boys, plus Claire Taylor, to travel up to the National Exhibition Centre outside Birmingham on Sunday, April 3, to compete in the Aviva UK Sportshall finals. It was a huge, new experience, and the competition was very,

very hard. Results of Vale pupils competing for Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan (unless stated) – under-15 Boys –



Izzy Eddy Williams (Cowbridge) on her debut in the under-15 girls all-rounder competition.

Years 9 and 10 - Team: - 1st (638).

3rd George Griffiths 3rd George Griffiths (Cowbridge) 131 (2 Laps – 24.3 (39); Shot – 11.52m (42); Standing Triple Jump – 8.18m (50)); 4 x 2 Laps relay – 1st – 1:35.9 (80); 8 Lap Paarlauf – 2nd – 1:48.1

(70).
Under-13 boys –
Team: - 1st (740) –
Years 7 and 8 – Tom
Trotman (Cowbridge)
64 (2 Laps – 1st – 24.7
(32); High Jump – 1st – 1.55m (32)); Kristian Jones (Cowbridge) 58 (4 Laps – 1st – 53.8 (32); Speed Bounce – 4th – 66 (26)): Rian Thomas (Cowbridge) 58 (6 Laps – 2nd – 1:29.2 (30); Standing Long Jump – 3rd – 2.17m (28)); Ellis Rosser (Cowbridge) 48 (6 Laps – 3rd – 1:30.5 (28); Vertical Jump – 7th – 46cm (20)); Daniel Oddy (Cowbridge) 20 (Shot – 7th – 7.16m (20)); Nathan Robson (Cowbridge) 24 (Shot 5th – 9.16m (24)); Harrison Stevens (Cowbridge) 26

(Vertical Jump – 4th – 49 (26)) 4 x 2 Laps relay – 1st – 1:43.5 (80); 4 x 1 Lap relay – 3rd – 53.6 (60); Obstacle relay – 3rd – 1:29.7 (60); 8 Lap Paarlauf – 1st – 1:54.9 (80). 1:54.9 (80). Under-15 Girls – Years 9 and 10 – Team: - 2nd (547); 8th Izzy Eddy Williams (Cowbridge) Winding Cowlings)
116 (4 Laps – 60.0 (30);
Speed Bounce – 75 (40);
Standing Long Jump –
2.21m (44)); 15th

(Cowbridge) 102 [2 Laps – 26.9 (36); Speed

Caitlin Allin

Year-8 Rian Thomas (Cowbridge) added to his cross-country

performances with medals in both the six lans and standing long jump.



Cowbridge year-8 Tom Trotman was winner of the under-13 two laps and high jump.

Bounce - 75 (40): Vertical Jump – 43cm (26)): 20th Sarah Lewis (Cowbridge) 89 (2 Laps 28.4 (20); Speed Bounce – 71 (25); Vertical Jump – 48cm (44)); 4 x 2 Laps relay – 4th – 1:48.6 (50); 8 Lap Paarlauf - 4th - 2:01.0

Competing for Glamorgan Valleys – 38= Alice Nottingham (Stanwell) 54 [4 Laps – 62.8 (18); Speed Bounce 66 (12); Standing
 Long Jump – 1.95m Under-13 Girls – Years Under-13 Girls – Years 7 and 8 – Team: - 4th (532); Molly Brown (Llantwit) 41 (2 Laps – 7th – 28.1 (20); Speed Bounce – 66 (21)); Ela Emyr (Cowbridge) 22 [4 Laps – 12th – 63.9 (10); Vertical Junp – 1th Vertical Jump – 11th – 39 (12)); Seren Marsh (Stanwell) 22 [6 Laps –





George Griffiths (Cowbridge) third in the under-15 boys all rounder competition.

9th - 1:45.0 (16): Standing Long Jump – 14th - 1.75m (6)); Maya Bell (Cowbridge) 48 (6 Laps – 1:42.3 (18); Standing Long Jump – 2nd – 2.15m (30)); Tamara Pitt (Llantwit) 24 [High Jump – 5th 1.25m (24)); Brooke Langton-Cryer (Cowbridge) 22 (Shot – 7.35m (22)); 4 x 2 Laps relay – 4th – 1:54.7 (50); 4 x 1 Lap relay – 5th – 57.6 (40); Obstacle relay – 4th – 1:32.4 (10); 8 Lap Paarlauf – 7th – 2:12.4 (20).Competing for Glamorgan Valleys – Ellie Eddy-Williams (Cowbridge) 31 (4 Laps – 9th= - 63.2 (15); Standing Long Jump – 2.01m – 9th (16)). **Report PETE MOR-**Pictures IAN DIXON



Barry Tigers show off their new kit

11s are pictured with their new kit, kindly sponsored by Matthew Sage of Sage Roofing; also in the photo is Darren Perry, team coach.

With the team going up to under-

BARRY Celt's Tigers under- 12s next year we will be looking for more players; for information, please contact Darren on 01446 406896.

We are also looking for players who are currently in year-4 for next season's under-10s.

MB

A hectic weekend at St Andrews Golf Club

THE golfing season started with a packed weekend at St Andrews Major Golf Club.

The occasional shower did not deter the attendance of both members and guests for the 'crazy gang' month-ly medal on Saturday, with Phil Fidler taking the honours with a net score of 70 and Mark Weaver and I Francis with 73

Sunday's events included the ladies' April medal, won by Lynne Peters, and the 'Sunday swingers' sta-bleford competition won by John Lock; but the main event of the weekend was the seniors medal competition, which attracted an excellent turn out, and for the first time. included several of the club's lady members.

Some unexpected good weather produced some very good results with top honours in the seniors medal going to John Lock, overall winner with a net 64 (second win of the weekend), G W Thomas, overall runner-up with a net 67 and Alvin Brown, overall third with a net 69.

With Sunday also being Mother's Day, the

restaurant catered for over 260 members and visitors who enjoyed the special three course meal prepared by the club chef, Gareth

working staff. Membership continues to grow steadily, especially in the juniors section with many tal-ented youngsters start-

Dommett and his hard

ing to emerge.
The seniors section is also developing with the seniors captain, Roger Parsons, arranging more competitions to take place on weekends and midweek.

Preparations are also well under way for the

annual sponsors cup day where we invite local businesses to enter a four ball team, playing stableford, where the best three scores on each hole count.

This year we have some fantastic prizes and places are strictly first come, first served and limited to just twenty teams.

Please contact John Lock on 07737 562465 or alternatively, full details can be found on the members' website www.samgolfclub.com

'Ton' comeback leaves Wick as the runners-up

Mid Glamorgan District League

TONMAWR Seconds

22

THE visit Tonmawr was crucial to both sides as the result of the game would decide the league runnersup place for the

season. During the first quarter of the match, both sides were equally bal-anced, with Paul Creed opening the scoring for the home side with a penalty which was answered by the visitors.

The breakdown area was ferocious, and that showed on open side flanker Luke McNaughton,

required stitches.

With the use of the wind, Wick took control with two tries from back row forward Morgan Thomas, taking his season's try count into double figures. Both were converted by Paul Creed, while wing Creed, while wing Aaron Haines scored an

of unconverted try which gave Wick a 22-3 lead at half-time.

Tonmawr used the second half to stage a strong fightback, open-ing with two tries, one of which was converted, to bring them back into the match.

The Wick defence held firm until captain Dave Edbrooke had to leave the field with a dislocated elbow and in the closing moments of the game, the visitors scored a try which, with a superb touchline con-version, ended the match in the draw.

With honours shared was Wick who claimed the runners-up spot in the league for the

season.

Now that the league programme has been completed, Wick now must focus for May 7, when they will meet Tondu in the final of the District Cup.

Barry under-9s end their season on high with win

BARRY under-9s played tries, and this was then followed their last league game of by a great finish from Mason and their last league game of the season at home against strong and larger Rhiwbina team which was always going to be a tough test!

Barry started with a series of tries; however, Rhiwbina fought back hard and were rewarded with some fine individual tries.

The Barry pack retained pos-session, but a few silly mistakes allowed Rhiwbina to come back. There was a fine display of

attack from Max, who scored two

another try saving tackle.

Louie finished off a well executed try with a pass from Sam.

Calvin tackled well and showed his determination and strength to score in the corner, followed by a strong run from Ryan to score and put Barry

The final try came from Barry's Powell, the match finishing with a 7–5 win to Barry.

Barry remained the top finishers of the league, only losing one

A huge thank you goes out to all the players who have been a pleasure to coach and who have played consistently well and, more importantly, shown a fantastic attitude and behaviour in training each week; let's make sure we keep it up for next season.

Under-9 squad: Joel, Coops, Jake, Jacob, Max, Ryan, Louie, Calvin, Sam, Rhys P, Rhys A, Taylor, Conner Morgan, Conner, Mason, Daniel, Scott and newcomers James, Rydian and



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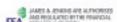








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GREAT RESULTS FOR RHYTHM NASTS AT BARRY'S YMCA

THE rhythmic gym- tion performance. nastics section at the Retired club member pass.

Lorelei Westcott has Air Barry YMCA have some recent performanc- the younger gymnasts.

The club would like to

February, and the club entered 10 girls across the two squad trials, Daisy starting with the preparastating with the prepara-tion squad for gymnasts under the age of 12, fol-lowed by the national squad trials for older

gymnasts. Megan McIntyre regained her space in the national squad and was grades according to age joined by team mate Gemma Frizelle, who only started rhythmic gymnastics one year ago, and has made excellent progress within the club.

Freya Evans regained her space in the preparation section, and was joined by team mates

Joanna Hourna.

Elen Williams.

Girls across the squads have also been invited to onships in June.

The horeogra
Thoreogra
Thoreogra-

topped their results the preparation coaches, from last year with passing on her knowlimpressive edge and experience to

The season started with the squad trials in who also took parts who also took part; Chloe Johns, Ffion Byrne, Seren Cummings, Connolly and Lowri McIntyre.

The club then moved forwards to the grades competition which took place on March 26 in the Welsh Institute of Sport.

In this event, gymnasts grades according to age

Gymnasts achieving merits progress onto the first stage of the British competition circuit advancing to the British grades finals in May, and gymnasts achieving dis-Joined by team mates tinctions coupled with Joanna Hourihan and Elen Williams.

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routines and achieved a

At grade 7 (age 11) been selected as one of Seren Cummings, Joanna the preparation coaches, Hourihan and Megan McIntyre competed with ball, hoop and free rou-

Seren passed, Joanna extend congratulations to gained a merit and will compete for the second year at the British grades finals, and Megan achieved a distinction and will once again represent the club at the British championships.

In Grade 8, the first year juniors Chloe Johns, Shanay Jenkins, Tayla Gerrish and Gemma Frizelle had four routines with apparatus (hoop, ball, clubs and ribbon); all the girls passed, and Gemma Frizelle showed great improvement from last year's competition to receive a merit and progress to the British grades finals.

Second year juniors Ffion Byrne and Elle Gwatkin both passed at grade 9, and senior gymnast Cody Byrne passed her grade 10.

ence to youngsters Elen Williams, Daisy Connolly and Freya four



ABOVE: The Barry YMCA gymnasts

her teammates to compete as a group in the group free and ball cate-

The team placed third in free and second in ball.

YMCA used the event to ing on the next competigive competition experi- tion – the novice and micrinediate champi- rhythmic gymnastics on their knowledge and four Welsh champions were crowned from the champions which is a constant to the champion of the champions which is a constant to the champion of the champions which is a constant to the champion of the cham

Alongside the grades, a competition for gymnasts under the age of 10 was held and the Barry YMCA weed the current and the sum of the competition.

Alongside the grades, gaining more experience like to congratulate isation of gymnasts. Corpleti Westcott, Sarah are both retired competition.

The club is now focus
Williams and Appear to the coaching and organization of gymnasts. Sarah are both retired competition.

vans. were crowned from the worked especially hard you all!

Lowri McIntyre joined Barry YMCA; the club for the award; as parent

will enter all competitive volunteers they have no gymnasts over the age of background in the sport and have been a great The club coaches Fay help recently within the Benningwood and Emma club structure, helping Thompson would also with coaching and organ-

Lorelei Westcott, Sarah chorelei Westcott, Sarah are both retired competitive gymnasts at the club, and it is great to have pleted their first level them on board to pass on

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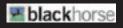




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DOCTOR TOM IS QUICK OFF THE MARK AT POINT-TO-POINT STEEPLECHASE

RIDGEND businessman David Brace saw his eight-yearold bay gelding Doctor Tom land a division of the maiden race in fine style at the Monmouthshire **Hunt Point-To-**Point Steeplechases at Llanvapley last **Saturday.**Brace, who runs the

Dunraven Stud Farm near Pyle, said: "I bought *Doctor Tom* in Ireland and his sire is the successful Dr Massini who is standing at my stud farm.'

Doctor Tom, who was the fastest of the four divided maiden races, was ridden by Tom David and like Leighton Thomas' Lady Trig, which won the other division, is qualified with the Llangeinor

Williams and Paul Tolman all rode doubles

at the meeting. Tolman (24), who was riding his first-ever double, was successful on Goscar Rock (Intermediate) and Viking Affair (maiden division two part two). Williams won on Bob's Law (restricted) and Lady Trig (maiden division one part two) and David on Doctor Tom (maiden division one part one) and Wilkinson (maiden division two part one).

Goscar Rock made nearly all to win by three-and-a-half lengths from Cutlass Silver, and Viking Affair came late on the scene to score by one-and-a-half lengths from Ace High Blue.

Bob's Law took over from the pacemaking Beyond Dreams three fences from the finish to win by three lengths, and Lady Trig, who has been knocking on the door, won by 30 lengths

Tom David, Nick

VALEWAYS WALKS ON Sunday, April 10 at 1.45pm, New Beaupre circular, starting from outside St Hilary church. Telephone 01446 749000.

On Wednesday, April 13 at 10.30am, a Heritage Coast spectacular, starting from New Mill Farm car park (a mile down lane from Plough & Harrow at Monknash). Telephone 01446 773422.

from the early leader For The Hell Of It.

The biggest cheers of the day, however, were for Pembrokeshire's John Mathias who won the men's open race on David Llewellyn's homebred Rosies Peacock who had twoand-a-half lengths to spare over the favourite Naunton Brook, ridden by Willie Twiston-Davies, and who was going for a five-timer.

The ladies' open race went to Beth Roberts' Chesnut Annie, who won by a distance from Mr Cee who had followed her home in last year's race. Beth said: "I dedicate this race to my mother Anne, who celebrates her birthday tomorrow. Chesnut Annie is named after

Unfortunately, Chesnut Annie's rider, Welsh champion Isabel Tompsett, was taken to hospital later when her mount, Just Paris, collided with a bale of hay during a division of the maiden race.

In one of the best members' races for years - seven of the eight entries faced the starter Classic Eclipse, well ridden by Mathew Barber, came home five lengths clear of Bayridge Mick after the fancied

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

JamesDoubleYou ran out at the open ditch on the second circuit.

Classic Eclipse, a full brother to winning chaser *Its A Classic*, is owned by Mr John Berry and trained by Paul Evans.

Starting prices -Members: Classic Eclipse (Mathew Barber) 4-1: Intermediate: Goscar Rock (Paul Tolman) 4-1; Men's Open: Rosies Peacock (John Mathias) 5-2: Ladies' Open: Chesnut Annie (Isabel Tompsett) 2-7 fav; Restricted: Bob's Law (Nick Williams) 3-1; Maiden Div: 1, Part 1, Doctor Tom (Tom David) 5-2; Maiden Div:1 Part 2, Maideli Div.1 Fait 2, Lady Trig (Nick Williams) 3-1; Maiden:Div 1: Part 2, Lady Trig (Nick Williams) 3-1; Maiden Div: 2, Part 1, Wilkinson (Tom David) evens fav; Maiden Div 2: Part 2, Viking Affair (Paul Tolman) 3-1 co.fav.

The Curre & Llangibby hold the second of their two point-to-points at Howick near Chepstow Racecourse on Sunday; first race at

The Vale's Grand **National** hope! LANCARFA N'S Evan Williams is hoping that his State Of Play can become the first horse actually trained in Wales to win the world's greatest steeplechase on Saturday since Kirkland won

in 1905. The 11-year-old State Of Play, which has not run since finishing third behind Don't Push It last year, was fourth the year before and Williams reports that his stable star is in fine fettle. Last week he said:

"He did his final piece of work on Saturday and he will have a school on Monday morning, but everything is good and we're happy with him.

"Stable jockey Paul Moloney has only been riding him very occa-

sionally. I'm not concerned about the ground at Aintree. There might be a drop of rain in the middle of the week - it will be good fresh ground and there will be no excuses on that side.'

Kirkland, which won the 1905 Grand National, was trained at Lawrenny Park in Pembrokeshire. There is a pub, originally called The Commercial in Tenby, which was renamed named The Kirkland Arms after him.

Wouldn't it be nice if State Of Play wins on Saturday and one of the pubs in the Vale changes its name to The State Of Play Arms!

Barry Island jockey won Grand National

T was 40 years ago, in 1971, that John Cook, who was born just a furlong or so from Barry Island's sands, won the world's greatest steeplechase -the Aintree Grand National.

Cook, then 33, was having only his third

ride in the race and in one of the closest finishes in the event's long history, he got his mount Specify home by a neck from Black Secret after six horses had jumped the last fence when all in with a chance.

Cook, who suffered a punctured lung, cracked ribs, broken legs and shattered collar bones during his race riding career, was drawn into racing as his parents were employed at Kingsclere Stables, looking after the stable lads. He served part of his

apprenticeship at Kingsclere with Evan Williams who hailed from Cowbridge, and who had won the 1937 Grand National on Royal Mail.

After completing his National Service in the Royal Navy, he found he was too heavy for riding on the flat and he rode for Frank Cundell. At the Cheltenham Festival he won the Champion Novices Chase on Mr Edward Courage's leg-endary Spanish Steps and he later won the Hennessey Cognac Gold Cup on the same horse.

Specify was owned by

Fred Pontin of holiday camp fame and it was only Cook's skill and strength in the saddle that enabled him to

snatch victory on the line. Just two and a half lengths separated the first three home.

Specify, who never won another race, was a 28-1 chance, and the following year ran well to finish sixth to Well To Do, but Cook was not in the saddle as he had fractured a leg so badly that he was unable to continue his race riding career.

He later emigrated to Australia with his family and it was there after a long illness bravely fought that he died in 1999 at the early age of 62.

It would be nice if the town of Barry were to honour John Dennis Cook, to give him his full name, in some way.

You can email your news.views to Brian Lee leebrian@btinternet.com

or phone him on 029 2073 6438.

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GEM sport

Bridgend RFC are the champions!



TITLE GLORY

BRIDGEND RFC (the Ravens) have won the SWALEC League One West title, and celebrated by beating Felinfoel RFC 85-3 at home in front of their excited fans.

SWALEC, the national community partner of the Welsh Rugby Union, sponsors the SWALEC Leagues and, to mark the success of Bridgend RFC, presented the victorious team with a trophy, champagne and winners' board following the

SWALEC league results can be found on www.wru.co.uk/774.php

Kenfig Hill are too strong for these Sisters!

RIGHT: Rhodri Clark breaking the tackle.



Tom Briggs on the way to his try. PHOTOS BY PETER GILLING

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Kenfig Firsts Seven Sisters THE match started brilliant back

took the ball forward and centre Chris Tossell com-pleted the move with a Sisters 11.

to the line. Kenfig Hill then took another scrum against the head and crum-half Mark Jenkins

The second half did not start well for the Mules with back row Steve Gillard yellowcarded and Sisters outside-half Kyle Lewis scored from the resulting

penalty.

Kenfig Hill were then Kenting Hill were then reduced to 13 men with a well deserved victoyellow card for hooker ry over Penygraig.
Karl Davies, Lewis again The Mules had a bare Karl Davies, Lewis again punishing the transgression. This saw the Kenfig Hill defence in fine form as Sisters tried to gain advantage, but the Mules' defence was as sister that the gain advantage, but the Mules' defence was solid, particularly Shaun Burnell and Matthew Tossell.

Sisters managed to score a try just as Gillard returned, with prop Ian Watts barging over the line. At this point, Karl



fray and Kenfig Hill Mark Jones, who gave a went up a gear and blew sprightly display on the the visitors away. Gillard charged down

with a bang with a an attempted clearance kick and followed up to brilliant try by kick and followed up to score. Prop Gavin Kenfig Hill full- Jenkins then powered Raymond over for a try, converted by Giles, while substitute Evans.

He caught the ball from the kick-off and ran from his own 25, totally from the entire from the entire from the kick-off and ran glided through the sisters' defence, again converted by Giles, and Seven Sisters team to Raymond Evans made score, and outside-half another sensational break Nicky Giles converted.

Minutes later, Kenfig thill took a scrum against ing the scoring with a the head, the back row conversion.

This gave a final score

try. This was a fine all Sisters came back into round performance by the game but again the Kenfig Hill defence was back Raymond Evans resolute with some named as man of the crunching tackles close match and Mark Jenkins winning the Prince of Wales meal for two.

Penygraig 2nd XV 7 Kenfig Hill 2nd XV 21

DEPLETED Mules XV made the journey into the Rhondda Valley and came away with a

left wing.

Penygraig played with the wind and slope in the first half and took an early lead with a converted try

The Mules were struggling to obtain any first phase ball against the heavier Penygraig for-wards and, to counter this, the Mules forwards and backs ran the ball into the wind at all times, which gradually wore down their bigger opponents

Playing an attacking brand of rugby resulted in the Mules crossing for two well-taken first half scores for Mark Jones, who ran strongly to score in the corner, which he converted from the touchline himself, and also for centre Alan Brace, who was constanta thorn in the Penygraig backline with his strong tackling and aggressive running.

However, the standout moment of the first half was a tackle from prop Lewis David who chased down Penygraig backs to halt a certain score. His actions typified the spirit of the Mules.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 25)

Bridgend Athletic's unbeaten run ends against Bonymaean

BRIDGEND Athletic's best ever run in Division One came to an end at Parc Mawr with a 35–21 defeat at the hands of Bonymaen. They had remained undefeated in the league since September 30.

The home side got off to a flier when a favourable bounce saw them collect the ball from the kick off, and swift handling saw full back Paul Williams cross in the corner.

Bonymaen extended their lead when a fly hack through from broken play saw full back Richard Williams win the race to touch down

The Athletic thought they had scored when wing Lloyd Pemberton crossed in the corner. However, the result saw Pemberton penalised when he disagreed with the referee that he had grounded the ball.

Pemberton then made a 60-metre break, resulting in a try for the sup-porting centre Rob Coles, Outside half Steve Lewis converted.

Williams then kicked penalty for the home side to give Bonymaen a 13–7 half time lead.

Centre Paul Davies crossed for the third Bonymaen try, which was quickly followed by Bonymaen Bridgend Athletic

a penalty try. Williams converted both to extend the Bonymaen lead to 27-7.

The Athletic showed great character to keep their heads up and were rewarded when Pemberton crossed for a legitimate try, converted by Lewis. Centre Stuart Morris then crossed for a third Athletic try, again converted by Lewis, to bring the Athletic back into the

game at 27-21. Williams, with his hat-trick try and a sec ond penalty, completed the scoring. Reflecting on the game Bonymaen took their chances and had the rub of the green but the Athletic battled

bravely throughout. The Athletic have a

when they entertain Bonymaen on Wednesday, April 20 at Newbridge Fields (kick off 6.30pm).

Next up this Saturday, April 9, is a home game against sec-ond placed Corus; fol-lowed on April 16 by an eagerly-awaited derby home fixture with runaway league champions Bridgend Ravens.

(SEE PICTURES ON PAGE 25)

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